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THE AMERICAN REVIEW ON THE SOVIET UNION

VOL. VI

NOVEMBER, 1944

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ADMINISTERING LEND-LEASE FOR THE SOVIETS

MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES M. WESSON

*Director, Division for Soviet Supply,
Foreign Economic Administration*

THE world is at war. Nowhere on the globe can free men take their freedom for granted. Nowhere can free men hope to retain their freedom without fighting for it. And no single nation, however potent, can win the fight by its own, unaided efforts.

The very strength of our enemies as manifested in their early successes compelled free nations everywhere, the small with the great, the weaker with the stronger, to unite in fighting for the liberties and rights of all.

We have learned again—through blood and sacrifice—the ancient truth that to be free, men must be strong; to be strong, they must be united.

This is a United Nations war. Everywhere, our allies are on the offensive side by side with our own forces. We have come a long way since the dark days of 1940 and 1941 when the forces of tyranny and aggression were winning all the victories and the peace-loving nations were suffering all the defeats. Indeed, the very fact that we are moving so rapidly imposes a handicap upon the person who would analyze it.

This is not the time to talk of the why or the how of victory for the single reason that we have not yet met victory. But it is pertinent, and good for our morale, I think, to examine some of the reasons for our present successes so that we may appreciate what is good in our equipment.

One of the most important reasons is this: We of the United Nations have learned how to strengthen each other, combine our complementary strengths and employ our arsenal of production, courage, and experience where it hurts the enemy the most severely. In that arsenal, lend-lease has become a most vital weapon.

The Soviet Army's victories are our victories, as our victories are theirs. The Soviet victories have been won principally because of the bravery, the fighting skill, the productive genius and the sacrifices of the Soviet armies and the Soviet peoples. But we Americans can be proud that we are helping to make these victories possible by supplying through lend-

lease some of the guns, tanks, planes, food and other war supplies which the Soviet Army is using to rout Hitler's hordes.

To June 30, 1944, lend-lease exports from the United States to the Soviet Union totaled \$5,931,944,000, more than one-half of which consisted of munitions. This is only a small part of the total of war materiel employed by the Soviet Union. She has herself produced the major share. But the lend-lease supplies have nevertheless been a vital factor in her arsenal.

In my work in the administration of the program of lend-lease aid to the Soviet Union, I have seen something of the miracles that have been performed on the supply front through this weapon for victory. Let me give you two brief examples.

OUR AID GROWS

In 1941 we were able to send only 150 planes and 8,500 trucks, tanks and other mechanized equipment to the Soviet Union. In 1942 the United States sent—not 150—but 2,500 planes. In 1943 we sent 5,150. In the first six months of this year we sent 3,000 more.

In 1942 we sent—not 8,500—but 82,000 trucks and other military vehicles. In 1943 we sent 144,000. In the first six months of this year we sent nearly 84,000 trucks.

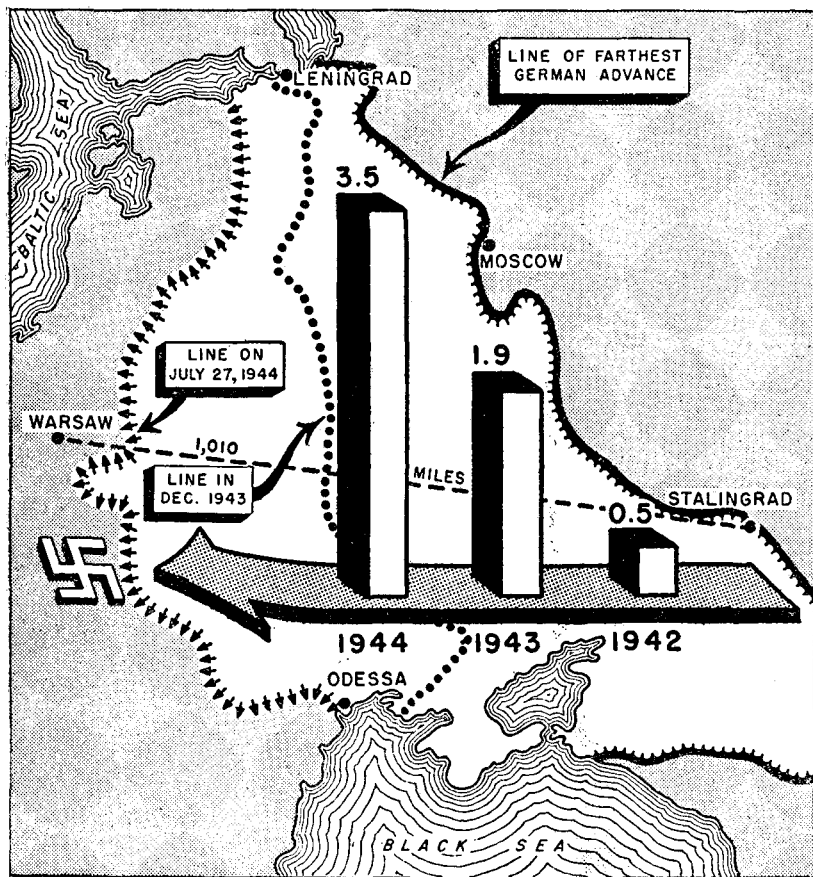
To get these weapons and other war equipment to Russia, an epic battle of supply has also been fought and won on land and sea and in the air—a battle that has been won by close cooperation between our two countries. We have developed air ferry routes direct from factories in the United States to the eastern front—routes that span thousands of miles of ocean and blazing desert and Arctic ice. About half of the total number of planes we have sent to Russia have been ferried by air.

On land, thousands of American army engineers and supply men, truck drivers, railroad-men and mechanics, have joined with the Soviet army's supply services in transforming primitive Iran into a broad highway over which American supplies shipped to the Persian Gulf move into Russia by rail and truck. Through this broken bottleneck now pour thousands of tanks, guns and trucks and hundreds of thousands of tons of tools and raw materials for Soviet war factories, and of food for the Red Army.

At sea, too, we have conquered. In 1942 the enemy sank 12 out of every hundred ships that sailed with supplies for Russia. In 1943 the enemy sank only one out of every hundred. The other 99 reached port in safety. And we are doing even better than that today. This great

record is due principally to the naval forces and merchant marine of the United States and Great Britain.

The battles which American boys have won in Africa, in Italy and in the skies over the enemy's territory, are likewise Russian victories. If the



"ONLY A SMALL PART OF THE TOTAL of war materiel employed by the Soviet Union" are the supplies shipped under Lend-Lease, but this Foreign Economic Administration chart shows how they grew, supplying ever increasing aid for the Red Army's forward march after Stalingrad. (The columns represent Lend-Lease shipments to the USSR in fiscal years, ending June 30. Figures are in billions of dollars)

Nazi armies were not diverted by their attack on Russia and then held on the eastern front defensive, certainly the story of Cherbourg and the

sweep across Normandy would be altered, as without the weapons and food supplied as lend-lease by the United States the story of the Soviet sweep through to Poland and Czechoslovakia would be different, too. These are facts bound up in the cooperative fight which we are now waging.

Millions of Germans will never fight against Americans because they have been killed or captured by our allies with the help of the supplies we have sent. On the Russian front, in Africa and Italy, in the skies over France and Germany, wherever the war is being fought, lend-lease is working for America just as surely as it is working for the other United Nations.

NEED FOR EXPLANATION

Too often some Americans think of the materiel which we have sent to our allies as something used against *their* enemies rather than against *ours*. They forget that forty-eight Nazi fliers who were shot down by Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Pokryshkin flying a Bell Airacobra plane might otherwise have lived to shoot down boys from Maine and Michigan in the fighting over Normandy. They forget that the fleeing Nazis who were blasted by American-made shells that roared from the mouths of American-made artillery in their flight across the Caucasus might otherwise have lived to challenge boys from Ohio and Oregon on the beach at Cherbourg.

The need for further explanation of lend-lease should not exist in these days of world-thinking when farm boys—many of them on their first visits away from home—are writing from Italy and Egypt of the leaning tower and the pyramids as familiarly as they once spoke of a neighbor's barn. But the need is seen every time a neighbor or a fellow bus passenger asks—"Why can't the Russians produce their own tanks?" or, "Our own boys need those planes," or again, "We can use all the food we can get right here at home." Oddly enough, this sentiment continues even after three and one-half of the most critical years of the world's history, during which the wisdom of lend-lease has proven itself.

If lend-lease meant the shirking of responsibility by one people at the expense of another, or America's interference in a situation not properly our concern, then we would, indeed, be justified in questioning its wisdom. But lend-lease means neither of these. It is a pooling of the resources of a group of nations engaged in a common fight to the end that the combined resources of all may be hurled against the common foe. Whether the Nazi flier is brought down over Flanders or over East

Prussia does not alter the effect: he will never again drop a bomb upon American troops, nor upon Soviet troops either. The Soviet gunner employing an American gun in an American plane to bring down his foe achieves the end just as effectively as if an American gunner fired the same gun.

Lend-lease stems from an accident which we call geography. It happened that on the enemy's war map the Soviet border was close by, while the borders of the United States lay a few thousand miles away. When the enemy crossed into Russia in the fall of 1941 he was making one of a series of moves; farther down his list our name was written. He would get to us. But first the Soviet Union must be hit.

While the Soviet armies fought desperately, American farms and factories worked with might and main, amazing the world with a production achievement beyond anything that could have been visualized in peacetime. War had been forced on the Soviet Union, the same war eventually was forced upon the people of the United States. Geography dictated that battle be made first on the Soviet Union, then on the United States. It was the same war and it still is.

Lend-lease, it should be emphasized, is an instrument of war, at work twenty-four hours a day. Officials of the United States government recently returned from the Soviet Union told of American machine tools and American steel which they had seen in use in the manufacture of munitions, guided by the hands of Soviet workers in factories and shipyards, in plants where American trucks were being repaired, wherever they looked in their tour of Soviet war industry. They saw towns and cities that had borne the brunt of the Nazi attack, and they saw the instruments being forged which would carry the war back into enemy land. They might as well have been in Akron or Detroit or Newark; the same materials were in use, being prepared to play a part in the same war.

300,000 MILITARY VEHICLES

On the highways, too, they saw motor trucks that bore the familiar hoods and hub caps, the same trucks they would see roaring across the Pennsylvania Turnpike and the Merritt Parkway. And those American trucks in the Soviet Union they learned were playing a yeoman part in the struggle. A large part of the supplies being sent up to the front to the advancing Soviet troops is being carried in trucks provided by the United States as lend-lease. It is tremendously heartening, this knowledge that the men who have smashed their way to some of the outstanding victories in the history of warfare depend upon trucks that were turned out by assembly lines in Detroit and Cleveland and Pontiac. To

June 30 we had sent 300,000 trucks and other military motor vehicles to the Soviet Union.

A *New York Times* correspondent recently cabled his paper from France that this was "our kind of war now," citing the use of chain store tactics to keep supplies flexible and American motor truck line tactics to maintain supply lines from stockpiles to the scene of action. Imagine the problems of transport faced by Soviet troops fighting on an 800-mile front extending from the Gulf of Finland to the foothills of the Carpathians, an offensive that drove the enemy out of 110,000 square miles of territory in thirty-eight days!

It is a story of movement, necessarily, and it is important, therefore, that on our list of lend-lease materials shipped to the Soviet up to June 30, 1944, we find such items as 339 locomotives and 1,640 flat cars, more than 455,000 tons of railroad rails and accessories, car and locomotive wheels and accessories. To that date also we had shipped or flown more than 11,000 planes to the Soviets. With this terrific movement and the rapid extension of lines, the need of communication equipment has been vast, too, which makes the more pertinent the total of 934,000 miles of telephone wire and 325,000 field telephones sent to the Soviet Union as lend-lease. These are only a few of many hundreds of items.

FOOD GETS PRIORITY

At one crucial period, when the fate of Stalingrad hung in the balance, and a convoy to the Soviet Union was being formed in American waters—the Soviet mission in charge of lend-lease was standing by to help oversee the loading of the ships. The news of the fighting was bad. But when time came to select the materiel for the convoy, the Soviet spokesmen asked that food rather than munitions be loaded. We lacked sufficient tonnage to provide both.

Since October 1, 1941, we have sent the Soviet Union more than 3,000,000 tons of food as lend-lease, including 588,000 tons of wheat and wheat flour, 510,000 tons of canned meat, 356,000 tons of vegetable oils and 62,000 tons of canned and dried milk. And to aid the Soviets in increasing her agricultural production, we have sent 17,000 tons of seeds since the inception of lend-lease.

In the Nazi invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941 and 1942, some 40 percent of the best agricultural land of the country was overrun, and industries vital to the production of materiel for the Soviet fighting forces were severely disrupted. As the Nazi waves advanced, dozens of factories were hastily dismembered and removed hundreds of miles back of the

fighting, and there rebuilt to produce again the much needed munitions. While this was under way the farm and factory workers who would in normal times have produced for the men at the front were forced to move back too, further reducing the nation's capacity to produce.

The United States would be in a similar plight if we were to lose the productive capacity of our eight largest agricultural States—Texas, Kansas, Nebraska, Montana, North and South Dakota, New Mexico, and Oklahoma. Or again, if we were to lose the farmlands in all of the New England, Middle Atlantic, Pacific, South Atlantic and Mountain States, plus an additional 30,000 acres. Imagine feeding our civilian population plus an army engaged with an invader, under that hardship!

Every American knows the story of American transportation in war—the freight cars rolling along the rails in seemingly endless lines, frantic efforts to conserve tires and gasoline on our highways, the pleas of our rail and motor truck lines for help and more help. But suppose we suddenly faced the problem—superimposed on all our other problems of war—of removing the airplane factories of Southern California inland to Arizona, or the war plants of Oregon and Washington to Idaho and Montana, or the heavy machinery and airplane factories of Hartford and Bridgeport into Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Combine these problems of food, agriculture, and transport plus the suffering of an invaded country, and we have a faint idea of the plight of the people of the Soviet Union during the worst years of this war. Consider the plight of the people of the Soviet Union reorganizing their lives to meet this situation while families, whole communities, were transplanted from their homes and farms, and while their engineers worked frantically to rip out installations of invaluable machinery and direct transfer of raw materials and tools to prevent their falling into the hands of the approaching enemy, with always that threat of complete annihilation hanging above their heads.

REVERSE LEND-LEASE

We have seen estimates of the price the people of Russia paid for victory at Stalingrad, in men and materiel. But can we estimate what it would have cost the United States of America if the Soviet troops had not held at Stalingrad? I doubt it. The very thought is staggering.

The Soviet Union has given us directly some essential goods as reverse lend-lease, notably services and stores for our ships which, having completed the long, arduous voyage to Soviet ports with food and munitions, needed supplies for the return trip. Recently, with the

development of the shuttle bombing technique by American planes based in Italy, the Soviet Union has placed at our disposal valuable airfields at which the American pilots land their planes and take on fuel and supplies. In this bombing technique the Americans are able to travel long distances from their bases to land their bombs upon the vital war industries of the Germans, because they know always that friendly Soviet airfields are close by. These contributions of service and supply are valuable and important.

But lend-lease is more than any so-called contribution or sum of contributions. It is, rather, an instrument designed to nourish the spirit of cooperation among nations engaged in a common cause—shoulder-to-shoulder effort to smash down an enemy whose very philosophy is inimical to a world of justice and liberty.

In blood and sweat and sacrifice we have found the power that comes from unity. May we never forget that hard-earned lesson in the days after victory is won. For only with this unity can we go on to build and make secure a lasting peace.

MY COMRADE

*Once more we tracked the foe; five days he fled,
As, at his heels, into the west we sped.*

*The fifth day, swarms of bullets blazing past,
My comrade fell, face westward to the last.*

*He died as he had fought, advancing west,
And fell stockstill upon the snowy crest.*

*His lifeless hands were flung so far apart
As though to press all Russia to his heart.*

*It seemed that he, who gave his life that day,
Though dead, would never give his land away.*

*Long bitter days his mother's tears shall run,
Unsolaced by the victory of her son.*

*But, let his mother know, her son's last rest
Came easier because he faced the west.*

*From the "LYRICAL DIARY"
of Konstantin Simonov
Translated by Ephim Fogel*

A SLAVIC CENTER FOR THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

ARCHIBALD MacLEISH

Librarian of Congress

THE changing treatment of Russian books in American libraries has followed the changing pattern of the interest of the American people in the people of Russia. During the years when the Americans thought of the Russians as a remote and different people, Russian books were treated as special collections to be held separately from general library collections and cataloged accordingly. Now that the people of Russia have become a part, and an immediate and present part, of the common world of all peoples, Russian books are being treated not as Russian books but as books.

In the Library of Congress they are in process of incorporation into the Library's general collections, with control through the Library's central catalog. From this time on, the Library's special services in the Russian field will be special services not in terms of the treatment of books but in terms of the relations of men. They will be services, that is to say, intended to bring Russian and American readers together rather than to keep American and Russian books apart.

The incorporation of the Russian collections into the general collections of a library is not without its difficulties. For one thing, the Cyrillic alphabet presents problems for the general staff of any library. For another, specialized scholars who have become accustomed to working with Russian materials in separated and isolated collections, regard a different shelving with apprehension, fearing that Russian books will be less available in general collections than they were when shelved alone.

The difficulty of alphabet can, however, be overcome. With the sympathetic assistance of a Congress and an Appropriations Committee which understood the importance, even in time of war, of making Russian materials more readily available, the Library of Congress has now materially increased its staff of Slavic catalogers and has developed a program for the preliminary cataloging of Russian books which will, it is hoped, make broad control of the collection relatively easy.

The apprehension of scholars who have been accustomed to the use of Russian materials in separate collections can also, the Library believes,

be met. That apprehension is based in large part upon a misconception as to the uses of systematic classification in a large library. Books systematically shelved under a system of classification, and controlled by a central catalog, are more readily available to a larger public than books shelved in special collections. What is essential now, is to make Russian

But it is not enough merely to treat Russian books like books and to materials as available as possible to the broadest possible public. make them as readily available as other library materials. It is necessary also to supply learned counsel and advice to their users. This purpose the Library of Congress intends to achieve through the establishment of a Slavic Center which will provide American students of the U.S.S.R. with expert assistance and promote the exchange, between the U.S.S.R. and the United States, of librarians and scholars able to interpret the two countries to each other. (Since the principal interest of readers of this magazine is in Russian material, I will confine myself in what follows to our Russian plans, merely remarking in passing that related plans are under development in other Slavic fields.)

YUDIN COLLECTION

The collection, on the basis of which the Library plans to build its services in the Russian field, is a collection of unusual interest to students of Russia as well as to students of libraries, for it is the collection used by Lenin in the late 1890's to complete his *The Development of Capitalism in Russia*. Lenin, exiled in 1897 to Krasnoyarsk, a provincial capital in Siberia, found there a remarkable library of books collected by a merchant of the town named Gennadius Yudin.

Yudin's library, purchased by the Library of Congress in 1907, was reputedly one of the greatest private libraries ever collected. It was extraordinary, not only for its location in an undistinguished town of some 30,000 souls, and not only because its collector was neither a man of wealth nor a man of letters, but because, in spite of these facts, the collection had grown to 80,000 volumes and because it documented with unexpected completeness the flowering of Russian literature in the 19th Century and the history and archeology of Siberia. It included in addition to the usual standard works, solid sets of scholarly publications and journals and rare manuscripts on the Russian discovery and colonization of Alaska.

But great as it was, there were gaps in the Yudin collection—understandable gaps in a Czarist collection but gaps notwithstanding. Writing to his sister on March 27, 1897, Lenin says, "Yesterday I visited the

famous local library of Yudin, who welcomed me cordially and showed me his collection. He also gave me permission to work in his library . . .” On the same day, however, in a letter to his mother, Lenin added, “I have found much less material on my subject in the library than one would think in a collection of this size.”

The weaknesses of the Yudin collection in 1897 when Lenin used it were still weaknesses in 1907, when the Library of Congress brought the books to the United States in 519 heavy cases. They remain weaknesses today, some forty years after purchase. Great collections, like the Yudin collection, when used as the foundation of library holdings have a natural tendency to determine the form of the structure raised upon them. Although the Library of Congress has added to the Yudin collection since its delivery in Washington, Lenin would still have found our holdings inadequate for the purposes he had in mind, had he turned to them at the end of his life. They are inadequate today in their representation of the new Russia Lenin helped to create.

One of the principal tasks to be undertaken, therefore, before an effective service of Russian materials can be given, is the task of extending the Library's Russian holdings to cover the entire field of Russian publishing activity. This, however, is a problem not in the Library of Congress alone, but in American libraries generally. It can best be solved by cooperative and collaborative effort. With the generous and imaginative assistance of the Rockefeller Foundation, a plan for a collaborative attack on the problem has been worked out and is already in operation.

PREPARING LISTS

A group of Russian scholars, under the direction of Professor Karpovich of Harvard, has prepared lists of basic Russian materials in the various disciplines and fields of knowledge to be circulated by the Library of Congress among American libraries specializing in Russian materials. It will be possible to determine by the checking of these lists against existing collections what basic Russian books are now held in American libraries and what books are still to be acquired. It is expected that reports from the participating libraries will reach the Library of Congress by the end of the calendar year, thus enabling the various libraries concerned to work out a post-war purchasing program in the interest of American scholarship as a whole.

Preliminary moves have thus been made on two fronts. We are incorporating the Library's existing holdings of Russian materials into the general collections, under control of the public catalog. At the same

time, we are preparing, in conjunction with other libraries, a program of acquisition of Russian materials which will attempt to correct existing weaknesses, not only in our own collections, but in the collections of the country as a whole.

It remains to plan for the service of these materials through a Center which will increase their usefulness, not only to specialists in the United States but to American readers generally. The project we have in mind is based upon our experience with our Hispanic Foundation—one of the most successful divisions of the Library of Congress, and one of the most effective instrumentalities of the National Government in its effort to improve cultural relations with the other Republics of this hemisphere. The Hispanic Foundation not only provides advanced reference assistance to American students of Hispanic subjects, but also encourages the interchange of scholars and of scholarly materials between the centers of American culture.

The same program would be adopted, if our efforts are successful, in the general Slavic field. We are attempting now to raise funds through private gift for the establishment of a Chair of Russian Studies and for the further establishment of Consultantships to which we may invite Russian scholars and librarians for periods of a few months or a year. In addition, we propose a limited publications program which will make the work of the Center known and useful to persons unable to visit Washington. Since this project, in its early stages, will be experimental it cannot depend upon appropriated funds. It is our hope that citizens interested in the wise development of our relations with Russia, and conscious of the importance to those relations of a sound library program, will make the initial experiment possible.

AN OWI OUTPOST IN MOSCOW

WILLIAM C. WHITE

Publications Division, OWI

FROM its beginning in 1942, the Overseas Branch of the Office of War Information (OWI) has had two separate jobs: to conduct psychological warfare against the enemy; and to prepare information on America and about American life and distribute it among neutral and Allied nations. In the latter activity it uses every possible tool, including daily news cables, publications, radio, motion pictures, exhibits, photographs, and many minor media. As a government information service, attempting to "project a picture of America overseas," the OWI has flourishing Outposts in London, Chungking, Lisbon, Madrid, Dublin, Stockholm, and other cities. And, since December 1943, there has been an active OWI Outpost in Moscow.

The OWI did not attempt any information work in the Soviet Union until after the appointment of W. Averell Harriman as Ambassador in the autumn of 1943. He arrived in Moscow knowing what the OWI Outpost in London had done to help explain Americans to the British; shortly after his arrival he arranged with the proper Soviet authorities for a similar but much smaller operation in the Soviet Union.

Today the Moscow Outpost is still small but very much alive.

Information service work is always closely related to the activities and needs of the local State Department representatives; in Moscow the OWI is housed in the Embassy and works in the closest relationship with the Ambassador. Its staff of six is under the direction of Col. Joseph Phillips, formerly of the *New York Herald Tribune*. No plans for personnel expansion are contemplated. Wherever Outposts engage in the production of material large staffs are necessary, but the staff in Moscow serve only as distributing and contact agents and all material for Moscow is prepared in New York.

Naturally, the element of distance is complicating and sometimes discouraging. However, the U. S. Army and Air Transport Command have cooperated in cutting down delivery time for much of the OWI material.

Mr. Harriman has defined the purpose of the Moscow Outpost in simple terms. Its job is to inform the Russian people about American life, American culture, America's part in the war. At the same time,

because of the world-wide facilities of OWI, we are able to assist the Ambassador in several useful ways.

Every day OWI in New York cables to Moscow six to eight thousand words of news of America. The cable includes the morning headlines from the chief New York papers to show how stories were treated, a summary of the important stories, news from Washington and other cities, and editorial comment on all sides of important topics from all the important American newspapers. The OWI staff in Moscow distributes that cable in a daily mimeographed news bulletin which provides the Ambassador and his staff, the American correspondents and various government missions with a full picture in miniature of that day's American scene. Extra copies are furnished to various Soviet agencies so that they, too, can get added coverage of American news.

OTHER MATERIAL DISTRIBUTED

At various times during the week, additional background material is cabled and distributed as the Ambassador may see fit. Much of it has served as source material for articles by Soviet newsmen; the amount of such writing on America has increased tremendously in Soviet papers in recent months. American correspondents have commented that the whole news service helps them in their choice of Soviet stories and dispatches, since they can now watch the flow of up-to-the-minute American interest and opinion.

News pictures are flown and occasionally radio-photoed to Moscow. The use of American pictures has increased in the Soviet press. Thanks to its vast world-wide facilities, the OWI has furnished Moscow with up-to-the-minute pictures of the progress of the invasion of Western Europe.

For the past two years, the British Ministry of Information has had a large and active operation in Moscow. A group of resident Britishers prepare a weekly eight-page newspaper which is sold on the newsstands—50,000 weekly. Other magazines and booklets are prepared in London and sent to Moscow. The Office of War Information, after consideration, decided to do all its publishing for the Soviet Union in New York in spite of the handicap of distance.

Today the Russian Division of OWI in New York prepares two magazines. One, *America Illustrated*, appears one month; the other, *America*, appears the next. *America Illustrated* resembles *Life* in size and format but carries no advertising. It contains twelve pages in color, a small amount of text, and the finest photographs that can be procured,

either by special assignment to OWI photographers or from the various agencies. Some American magazines, including *Life*, permit *America Illustrated* to take any desired material they may have and furnish free of charge photographs and plates.

The first number of this magazine is now on the presses. The first edition will be 20,000; most of it will be flown most of the way to Moscow by the Air Transport Command. The table of contents of the first issue shows how the magazine attempts to give a wide coverage of America:

- U. S. Plans for International Peace Organization
- Regions of the U. S.
- U. S. Military Leaders
- Saving the Soil
- The Western Front Is Open
- How the U. S. Government Works
- U. S. Artists at War Fronts
- Bombing Germany
- U. S. Women in War Work
- The Electroencephalograph
- Prefabricated Housing
- U. S. Submarines
- Television
- Music
- T.V.A.
- American Dancing
- Sports in America

The magazine will be sold in the Soviet Union for fifteen rubles per copy through the facilities of Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga¹ which will take part of the receipts. The balance will be returned to OWI through the State Department. It is hoped that the entire cost of Russian publications will be self-liquidating.

DIGEST-TYPE PUBLICATION

The second magazine, *America*, is a digest-type publication. It uses few pictures. The first number, in an edition of 20,000 copies, is now en route to Moscow. It will sell for three rubles, under the same arrangements as described above. Material for it is taken from other magazines and from Government publications.

¹The agency which distributes foreign literature in the USSR.

The table of contents for the first issue of *America* is as follows:

President Roosevelt on the Pacific
Army Service Forces
Electronics Unlocks the Future
Zero Hour—A story of the Pacific
American Composers
Chicago
Grant Wood
Inventors and Fighters—American science in wartime
The Election of Presidents in the U.S.A.
Target—Germany—The work of the Air Force
Excerpt from "Cross Creek" by Margaret Rawlings
The First Days of the Invasion

The Moscow Outpost continuously reports increased interest in things American. To satisfy that interest, OWI in New York prepares at intervals thorough and comprehensive exhibits on some one theme and sends them to the Soviet Union.

EXHIBITS SHIPPED

With the cooperation of the American Council of Architects, a most useful and illustrative exhibit on prefabricated housing has been shipped, at specific Russian request. One on the work of the New York Theater Guild will soon follow. These exhibits are sent with full instructions for mounting, and after being shown in Moscow and Leningrad will be copied and shown throughout the Soviet Union.

Through OWI facilities and thanks to the American motion picture industry, current American feature and documentary motion pictures are sent to Moscow. They are shown to the Soviet Film Committee and to other influential Russians and are at the disposal of Mr. Harriman for any use he may care to make of them. The official OWI weekly newsreel is sent to Moscow and clips from it occasionally turn up in Soviet newsreels.

The OWI has been very successful in sending out official reports on American wartime progress in various sciences, including medicine, astronomy, agronomy, mathematics and other branches. These are prepared for OWI by recognized authorities. The American Medical Association, for instance, prepares the medical report every two weeks. Such reports have done much to inform the world of the work of American scientists. Those sent to Moscow are warmly welcomed by the various

scientific societies, and are given wide circulation throughout the Soviet Union.

The OWI Outpost has many minor functions. It brings to Moscow and makes available to Russians the latest American books and plays. Plans for several stage productions of Broadway hits are afoot, thanks to Outpost activity. The Outpost keeps a morgue of news pictures, and is at the service of Soviet publications.

The OWI has collected and produced small but thorough reference libraries and has shipped them to the Outposts. One is in Moscow. This small portable library containing several thousand books, pamphlets, government documents, and other material on every aspect of American life, industry, and culture, is at the service of any interested Russian.

Every traveller returning from Moscow tells of the tremendous interest of Russians in things American. As part of its informational function, the OWI attempts to satisfy that interest.

AMERICAN PLANES EXHIBITED

AMERICAN BOMBERS, especially Flying Fortresses in production and in action over German targets, were the subject of a photo exhibit held last June in the Moscow House of Architects, according to *Izvestia*. Sponsored by VOKS (Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries) the exhibit was formally opened by Vladimir Kemenov, president of the society, and U. S. Ambassador W. Averell Harriman.

One section of the show was devoted to production at the Glenn Martin plants. Another section depicted German war plants being put out of action, with a series of photos showing destruction of the Messerschmitt plant near Leipzig. Other pictures introduced Don Gentile and other American air heroes to the Soviet public.

Translated from the Russian and slightly abridged, this article is by a well known poetess who remained in her native city during its greatest ordeal. She continued writing and broadcasting though weak from hunger; her husband died during the siege.

FRONTLINE LIBRARIANS

A Leningrad Epic

OLGA BERHOLTZ

WE SUFFERED everything imaginable in our city in compressed form—evacuation and nomadism and homelessness.

In our beleaguered city people evacuated from the outskirts to the center, because every day Leningrad residents would find themselves deprived of home and hearth and have to seek a new habitation. We lived through days of bombardment which reached the highest pitch of ferocity. We lived through the unprecedented and unexampled days of the famine winter of 1941-42. We were, so to speak, resurrected in the spring of 1942. And what was most important—we learned anew how to lead a normal human life in our city. To you this may seem strange—but this is the chief victory of Leningrad—learning anew how to live a natural, human life—in absolutely unnatural conditions.

A short while ago I made a public appearance before the young workers of a Moscow plant. As we were driving to the plant, one or two of the young workers accompanying me put the following question to me in a tone that left no room for doubt as to what answer was expected:

“You must have accounted for lots of Hitlerites?”

They were surprised and disappointed when I replied:

“I not only didn’t account for a single Hitlerite, I never even saw one.”

And really, I—like 99 per cent of the residents of Leningrad who lived in the frontline-city—never once saw a live German. When I say that I lived in a frontline-city this is no mere form of artistic expression. It is a cold fact, because in some places the Germans were stationed almost in the city itself. Ours was a frontline-city in the direct, military sense of the word.

But although we lived in such a city, not all of us pursued the direct aim of military defense. The job of all those not wearing military

uniforms and not fighting at the forward edge was to continue with their daily affairs—the teacher to teach, the writer to write, the skilled worker to run his lathe, the librarian to issue books and to safeguard the library's book-fund, the actor to play and the vocalist to sing. Under the conditions obtaining in Leningrad—and this is no artistic exaggeration—all this became a military matter, a pitched battle.

We no longer have any dystrophy—that ghastly disease which took toll of such a vast number of Leningraders. But we have another disease which doctors have termed: “Sequel to Bombing.” One out of every three people dying in Leningrad succumbed to this disease. It is in the nature of a specific kind of hypertonia—i.e. high blood pressure which ends in rupture of the blood vessels and cerebral hemorrhage. Its prevalence was due to the fact that people suffered terrific nervous overexertion as a result of incessant shelling and bombing.

COST OF COURAGE

What is more, it cannot be said that it is mainly cowards who are susceptible to this disease. On the contrary, those falling ill with this ailment were mainly the kind of people who, as the term has it, always kept themselves in hand and who, during enemy bombardments, coolly and calmly went about their usual affairs. But independent of their will and of their morale, this nervous overexertion demands supertense work of the heart and blood vessels. In the end, the blood vessels are unable to withstand the terrific strain and there follows this disease, which very often ends fatally. Translated from the medical to the vernacular, this disease could be called *Cost of Courage*.

When people write that Leningraders have learned how to live on calmly in their bombarded city one really should know what this costs.

The siege of our city was distinguished from old-time investments of ancient days in that we, the civilian population, did not man the city walls and pour down boiling pitch on the foe's head nor pelt him with stone. We did more. To the best of his abilities, each one of us fought for the very foundations of the city's existence—so that life might continue.

To have an idea of what this means, imagine that, say, New York City or London is blockaded. No electricity, no gas, no water. All municipal transport is dead. Winter. You are freezing.

Let us assume you have been lucky enough to get your hands on a small tin stove. But how about fuel? There's no coal—the city is cut off from the rest of the country. And if you have succeeded in getting your allotment of old boards, you'll have to carry them home on your own

shoulders. And now, on the polished parquet flooring of your centrally-heated apartment you have set up your tin stove and, carefully counting each bit of precious wood, you start heating. Result—lots of smoke and very little warmth. And because of this you not only walk around at home in your fur coat, but also sleep in it.

Your morning ablutions? You take up a battered old bucket or pot and foot it to the river—which means a hike of three or four miles. But you can't carry sufficient water in one trip—you have to wash your child's and your own linen (and all this without soap!). You have hardly finished with your laundering (or whatever other chore it may have been) when you find that darkness is already falling. There's no light in your apartment, and this makes you feel colder still.

To all this add undernourishment and incessant shellfire and you will then begin to understand what the fight for Leningrad meant. The problem was not only to live through this, but also to work and defend the city against an enemy only a few miles away.

Despite such a terrible thing as the reversion of a modern civilized city to medieval days as far as everyday life and municipal amenities are concerned, intellectual life never ceased for a moment in Leningrad. Volumes would have to be written if one were to tell in detail how every field of art, literature and science carried on in these days, and of what it did. I will dwell here in brief on the winter blockade days of the Public Library which bears the name of the famous Russian writer Saltykov-Shchedrin.

It should be mentioned that evacuation from our city proceeded under fierce enemy bombings, and that all roads from Leningrad were cut off before all the valuables could be removed from the city. The Public Library succeeded in removing only the most unique and precious books. Several million volumes, among them many highly valuable books, were left behind in the care of a mere handful of people in the blockaded city.

The autumn of 1941 made its advent with terrific air raids. The Hitlerites dropped several dozen fire bombs on the Public Library, as the persistent Germans kept on bombing the center of the city. Each bomb threatened to reduce this priceless treasure to a heap of ashes, but the skeleton staff of the Library saved it from destruction. There was not a single fire in the Library.

Winter set in. People began to suffer famine. Like the rest of Leningrad's intellectuals, the Library workers enjoyed no privileges whatever in regard to food rationing. Only once was it found possible to issue something extra in the way of food to a few of the most loyal members of the staff. This was during the most critical period—at the end of

December, and the extra food item issued was one kilogram of oil-cake each. This was a real holiday event, and it saved more than one member of the staff from death by starvation.

READING-ROOM MORGUE

A morgue was set up in the Public Library reading room. For weeks on end, corpses lay on the tables at which many of these now dead and departed had once sat, in their student years, poring over books. Every day there were cases of staff members dying in the Library, and their bodies were carried into the same hall where, but a short while ago, they had issued books to readers.

Still the Public Library never ceased its work for a moment. In a special hall, next to that which had been converted into a morgue, people sat in their coats and gloves, reading books, working and even continuing with their studies. The Public Library received a huge number of requests for bibliographic lists. The subscribers' desk worked through the whole winter.

The city had to live on. Steps had to be taken so that not everyone died. No matter what it cost, means had to be found within the city somehow at least, to feed people. At that time the Ladoga road had just been laid—a slender thread linking Leningrad with Russia. We Leningraders called it "The Road of Life." And along this thread of a road Russia sent us products and arms. But this was not enough, both arms and food had to be made by us ourselves, within the besieged city!

When in one or two warehouses were found meagre stocks of cocoanut oil, soya oil-cakes and other items never used for human food, they somehow or other had to be adapted to serve as food, and somehow or other light had to be found to break the gloom into which the city was plunged. And then the Public Library was asked to find books providing information on the manufacture of matches, soap and candles, and on utilizing cocoanut waste, etc., for food purposes.

At first the Library staff made a blunder. It selected a modern bibliography on these subjects—books dealing with machine methods of manufacturing matches, of conveyors turning out millions of candles a day. But of what use was all this to Leningrad? And it then dawned on the Library staff that they would have to revert back a couple of centuries or so. And they dug up old manuals and handbooks of home instructions dating to the beginning of the eighteenth century which told how candles, soap and many other things could be made by yourself, at home. These ancient little books helped to get daily life and essential production running smoothly in Leningrad.

Let me explain a little further just why old books proved to be so necessary. It turned out upon examination, for instance, that the ordinary match contained 70 different chemicals (before the blockade no one had stopped to think of such a thing). And our old stand-by, the Public Library, dug up a method of making matches which required less than half this number of chemicals. True, these matches had to be coaxed into lighting, but still they did light, so our poets wrote verses and our painters painted Leningrad scenes for the boxes these matches were put in. And thus our heroic matches were passed about in Leningrad and served the city in good stead, even though we called them "dystrophics" to show our displeasure with their feebleness.

But even the matches made according to the formula worked out by the Public Library on the basis of an ancient handbook—even these fell short of filling the need. It was then that people began to invent other means of obtaining fire. A friend of mine kept three glasses containing acids on her table, and into these, in succession, she would dip a wooden splinter. When the operation reached the third glass the splinter would usually burst into flame. Children's toy pistols were also used for obtaining fire.

In the spring of 1942 youngsters on the street would let you light a cigarette from a magnifying glass for a trifling fee. Dozens of other ways might be described.

29 LAMPS INVENTED

The extraordinary inventiveness and tenacity that Leningraders showed in the little things of everyday life brought out even more clearly their amazing fighting capacity. No less than 29 different types of home-made wick lamps were designed. Just think of what it meant to invent so many different kinds! There were countless kinds of stoves—stoves with built-in kettles, stoves made with a single brick, stoves with twin chimneys, stoves on which you could simultaneously cook and heat the radiators under the window—in other words stoves that supplied you with your own steam-heating system.

But to return to the Public Library. I have mentioned the fact that by selecting and compiling bibliographies on needed subjects, the Public Library did much to help launch certain types of production which were highly involved and indispensable to the city. This was not only a matter of making matches but of producing such things as albumen yeasts, which helped to save many lives. The Library helped to start the production of casein and a number of other items needed for the front.

The Public Library also helped those who were fighting at the front

and helped them in its own way—as a library. At the beginning of 1942, for instance, reinforcements arrived at our front. These troops were mostly Siberians and Kazakhs. And it was not long before the Library had some visitors from the front (people from the front often came to the Library—it was no great distance).

“Some new units have arrived who are going to defend Leningrad,” they said, “but they are people who have never seen the city.”

The Library dispatched its veterans with their magic lantern and unique priceless slides depicting the city to these newcomers at the Leningrad front. And the starving Library workers delivered lectures and showed pictures of the wonderful, magnificent city for which people who had come here from the depths of Russia, people who had never seen Leningrad, were now battling.

COLLECTION AUGMENTED

Not only did the Public Library save its main book collections from the Nazi bonfire and help the city to fight for its life. It did everything possible to enrich and augment its manuscript and main collection with rare and valuable items.

It would have seemed that in a city where tens of thousands of people were dying every day, these dying people would be least of all concerned with books. And yet books were not abandoned to a homeless fate in Leningrad. A friend of mine—Maria Malkova, the head of the Acquisitions Department—told me how old St. Petersburg intellectuals came to the Library in the bitter cold of the 1941-1942 winter.

“I shall probably die soon. Come and take my books for safekeeping,” they would say.

And the Library workers, just as wasted and emaciated as these old people, would go to their homes and take the books for safekeeping.

In the spring of 1942, Maria Malkova hauled many rare books and manuscripts to the Library on children’s sleds from districts on the outskirts of the city. She had to make several trips before she could bring them all in. She was suffering from scurvy and exhaustion, she had two children and a sick husband to care for, it was very difficult for her to keep on her feet. But the books *had* to be saved, so she saved them.

It was in this way, often a tragic one, that the Public Library took under its care and observation all the most important private libraries of those who had evacuated from the city or had died, and saved these books. Some highly interesting items were found in these private archives. Unfortunately I cannot now recall all the titles but I know that authentic manuscripts of the great Russian poets Pushkin, Lermontov

and others, and a large archive of material relating to Arakcheyev were discovered and saved.

Besides all this, the Public Library never for a moment ceased its research activity. The twenty-fifth anniversary of the October Revolution was marked by a scientific session at the Public Library. Many interesting reports on scientific subjects were made as well as others on such themes as *Books and the Defense of Leningrad* or *Library Work in a Front-Line Zone*.

The Public Library is compiling a huge collection of all the printed matter being published in Leningrad—from ration cards to books. All this is being gathered, classified and put into the form of a splendid collection.

PRIVATE ADVERTISEMENTS

All kinds of private advertisements began to appear on the sand-box boards covering the shop windows. At first there were the notices that dated to the evacuation period—"Because we are leaving the city, such and such things are offered for sale." Then came the terrible notices of the first winter. I remember some of them. "For sale—an unused light-weight coffin." Or another—"Attention everybody! Corpses hauled on sleds to the cemetery and other loads."

These were followed by advertisements on which we gazed with real rapture in our eyes: "Wanted—Railway Car Attendants." The railroad had begun to function once more! In the spring of 1942 there was a colossal demand for labor. This was reflected in the notices that appeared everywhere.

Very many Leningraders are now writing diaries. There is a certain inner urge to put down on paper everything that a person has experienced and seen. But the walls of the city too are a real living diary that belongs to all of us, that records what all of us lived through. Sometimes you go up to one of the boards and see two quite different notices posted alongside of each other. Here is the appeal issued in September 1941—"The Enemy Is at the Gates of Leningrad." And next to it a notice which dates from the spring of 1942: "Leningraders! All Out to the Vegetable Gardens!"

When you look over these handbills and notices month after month, you are amazed at how many events were crowded into such a short time.

There are any number of people who are making collections of all sorts of things. I know a teacher who collected 13,000 children's diaries from the winter of 1941-1942. You can imagine what valuable material is to be found in anything so honest and trustworthy as the diary of a

youngster. The Public Library is engaged in classifying and compiling all this material.

The Leningrad operetta, the Musical Comedy Theatre, was the only theatre which remained in Leningrad. It did not cease its performances during the whole of the blockade. Only in January and February, in the most terrible and darkest months that the city suffered, did the theatre temporarily close down because of the complete absence of lighting in the city. In the middle of February and throughout all of March, when famine was raging, the operetta carried on.

The actors, who were as grimy and awful to behold as the audience, danced in *Sylvia*, and the wan, thin dancer leaped on to the table and sang "There's a bit of the devil in each of us." The audience left the operetta, faint from hunger, went to their homes and hummed in low voices "There's a bit of the devil in us. . . ." Sometimes one of the actors fainted on the stage during a performance; then those dancing would simply make their circle closer.

This was both a fight for a city and a fight for life, and this fight produced amazing results.

Many people are under the impression that the lifting of the siege changed life in Leningrad. This is not quite the case.

THE BREAK-THROUGH

True, the break-through was a great event in the life of the people. The enthusiasm which reigned in the city gripped every one. I cannot remember any other day (or rather, night) equal to it in jubilation.

We had, of course, heard that operations were going on to break the siege—the front was, after all, very near us. We heard how our artillery was letting the Germans have it. And yet the news of the break-through came as the most unexpected and joyful tidings. I witnessed how people, learning of the break-through that night, flocked to the Leningrad Radio Committee, the city's beloved tribune, from all parts of the city.

One old woman walked the whole night from Novaya Derevnnya. She managed to get past the militiamen without a permit and said to everybody she met on the way: "My dear, I'm going to congratulate Leningrad on the break-through."

Many persons gathered in the large room of the Radio Committee, the room where, in the winter of 1941, the employees had worked, slept, lived and died. One of the staff brought in a soldier from the Volkhov front who had a slight head wound. He had only just arrived from the front, and was the one who had embraced the first of our soldiers from

the Leningrad front to break through to them. When this soldier entered the room with a bloodstained bandage on his head, we all rose to our feet and applauded him.

That night we continued broadcasting till five o'clock in the morning.

This was a memorable night, and the holiday mood lasted through the next day. And even when the Germans began a fierce bombardment of the city the evening of January 20, it failed to quench the people's spirit. But I would like to say here that Leningrad's victory, the result of its fight for life was the fact that the siege had *morally* been broken through by the inhabitants long before the actual military break-through.

Just how did this moral victory, this moral break-through, manifest itself?

RESOLVED: NOT TO DIE

During the winter of 1941-42 many persons, even Maria Malkova, said, "I have made a resolution not to die until the first of January." Then came the first of January. The term was extended until February 23.

"If our army doesn't take Mga and break the blockade, I won't be able to hold out," said Maria Malkova on February 23.

People set these dates and lived from one to the other. But many became victims of this trick, for dystrophia is a disease which depends largely on the will, on a person's determination to live. In many cases it was will power rather than medicine which saved people. It was will power that kept them from observing their growing debility, their trembling knees, their shortened breath. By an effort of will they concentrated their attention on something else. Obviously, these individuals had more chance to survive than those who began to observe how death was creeping in on them, became frightened of it, and took to bed. Such persons in almost every case died.

It was very important when a person set a date up to which "he would surely live"—such a date for the limit of his endurance, as for example, the taking of the town of Mga on the northern section. If this didn't happen within the appointed time, then that person lost courage and often gave himself up to death.

Then in February—the 23rd of February, Red Army Day—after the last date appointed for the taking of Mga, and it wasn't taken, people began gradually to understand that they must not wait, that they must not think "as soon as the siege is broken, then we'll begin to live." We must live now. Live as though the city were not blockaded, not besieged.

This was a great victory, a turning point in the morale of Leningraders of which I can give only an intimation. In order to understand what happened one must ponder it, at length, and consider a multitude of the most extraordinary examples.

I recall the first concert held on the fifth of April, 1942, after that dreadful winter of 1941—that winter which we never thought we could live through. That day in April was the first day that Leningrad wept. Leningraders saw that people here in the theatre, on the stage, were appearing not in quilted jackets, but in frock-coats, and that they held violins in their hands and played on them. No one listened to what they played. That was not the point. The point was that they were playing, that once more Leningrad was holding concerts. Alongside of the announcement “The Enemy Is at Our Gates” (the enemy remained as close as ever) appeared new bills—here a concert, there a concert—and people stood before these notices and wept.

It was an event when people wept at that first concert. But it was even more significant that Leningraders once more began to frequent the theatres, to make new clothes, to live in comfortable apartments.

PEOPLE RETURN HOME

In the spring of 1942, people began to return to their homes. Until then they had been living at work. They tore off the paper strips which had been pasted on their window panes, convinced that these crossed strips never guaranteed safety. In the midst of shell bursts, people washed their windows and let the balmy air into their frozen rooms.

In the autumn of 1942, there was once more a great moving. As in the winter of 1942, the Hitlerites shelled our wonderful city. The bombing continued. Everything conceivable was done to harass our lives, but people faced it all calmly. The trials of 1941-1942 had taught us what we must do.

What did we do? We tore down all the wooden buildings in Leningrad. Beyond the Moscow and Narva gates now stretches a great empty space where formerly stood tens of thousands of old wooden houses. Nothing is left of them.

But the Leningraders did not touch the trees, and their gardens remain intact. Incidentally, one of the things that I found most amazing was the appearance of plants on the window sills when people opened their windows in the spring of 1942. Throughout that dreadful winter, many women of Leningrad had cherished their flowers—more evidence of the city's will to life.

In the autumn of 1942, people once more began to move—from the wooden houses on the outskirts into stone houses. The love and challenge which went into the arranging of their new quarters was a sight to gladden the heart. They waxed the floors, laid down the rugs and hung their curtains.

The bombing and shellfire continued, but people no longer had the feeling that had formerly possessed them, that “for the present” they would “somehow fix up for a while.” We began to live in full measure, without reservations.

When the actors of the Bolshoi Drama Theatre came to Leningrad, they were overwhelmed. They could not understand how we could talk about suits and clothes, and even about the latest styles. They could not understand why we spoke so little about the war—about hate and revenge. But I assure you that in the ability to live as the people of Leningrad lived, more hatred for the Hitlerites is contained than in all the pathos of all the words and all the gestures that could be addressed to them.

Our writers lived the same life as all the other people of Leningrad. A foreign paper once asked me to write my “observations and impressions” of Leningrad. I found that amusing. There was never the situation that some people underwent something while others sat in the amphitheatre and watched. Not at all. We were not onlookers—we lived and struggled the same as everybody else.

The poet Nikolai Tikhonov lost five members of his family. The mother of the writer Vera Ketlinskaya, who is now finishing a long novel about Leningrad, died of hunger. All of us lost those who were nearest and dearest to us. Those were not “impressions” or “observations,” but the personal grief of each of us.

NEW LOVE FOR LIFE

But with all this sorrow and grief Leningraders developed a new love for life, nature, birds. We people of Leningrad are very fond of birds. We miss the birds, which have almost disappeared because of the din of gunfire. And just as a more intense love of life and nature has sprung up, so a new love for art, and especially for poetry, has developed.

In September 1941, when the city was being stormed, all music was discontinued on the radio. That silence continued from September to the end of February. The intervals between news and political broadcasts were filled in with the ticking of a metronome.

Inhabitants of other cities often expressed surprise at the prominence paid to the metronome in Leningrad’s poems and stories, but this was

natural. The metronome was the city's pulse. When the radio was not working, the metronome ticked at the rate of 60 beats a minute, but after an air alert signal was sounded there were 120 beats a minute. When the metronome stopped ticking there was the menacing silence which meant that there would be an air raid or a bombardment alert would be sounded. When the speeded up tickings slowed down to 60 per minute it meant that there would follow the highly welcome, gentle and pleasant announcement of the "All Clear!"

Famine and cold came in the winter of 1941-1942. Trolley buses and street cars stopped running. Walking became impossible; people were too weak, so the radio became the only means of keeping them in touch with one another. People lay in their cold beds and learned of what was going on at the front and in the world through the earphones, whose low current scarcely produced a whisper. They listened to poetry over the radio. Thus in a city where there was no longer any singing or music, poetry bore the burden of all the arts.

An especially striking example of Leningrad's faith in and love for poetry is shown in the fact that Leningraders offered a kilogram of bread for my *Poem of Leningrad* on the day of its publication in the *Leningrad Pravda*. They bought my book and Vera Inber's *Pulkov Meridian* for 300 and 400 grams of bread at the market. Thus the people of Leningrad valued books at the rate of bread—and they knew the price of bread! We could hope for no higher appreciation and honor!

I do not wish to leave the impression that all of the people were heroes, that everyone was perfect. Sometimes it seems to me that the people of Leningrad are represented as being all the same, an identical mass, like caviar, with all of them heroes. That isn't so. There is great differentiation among the citizens of our city. A person who had no service to offer, who simply starved, was considered a hero by nobody. We had different standards for appraising a person.

The people of Leningrad were confronted by the German ring gripping the city. The Germans were confident that as a result of inconceivable hunger the people would collapse, would tear at each other, break into revolt, forget everything for the sake of a piece of bread. Here clashed the savage notions of armour-plated beasts and Soviet Russian consciousness. And Russian consciousness emerged the victor from this trial.

Leningrad won.

THE REVIEW AND THE ARI

WITH this issue, *The American Russian Institute* renews publication of *THE AMERICAN REVIEW ON THE SOVIET UNION*, which from 1938 to early 1942 was considered required reading by thousands of Americans professionally or personally interested in obtaining authoritative information and source material on developments in the USSR.

The nearly three years which have passed since the last issue of this journal have been years of crucial global conflict, in the course of which the interchange of information and publications between the United States and the Soviet Union has been extremely limited and many Americans best qualified to write with authority have been unable to do so because of pressing war assignments. Now, as victory draws nearer, this situation is easing. Once more is it possible to obtain, both from the USSR and in this country, the type of material which the REVIEW has always sought.

Designed to provide information on current developments in various fields of activity in the Soviet Union, the magazine as in the past will strive to serve the student, the specialist and the general reader seriously interested in what is happening in that country which has won such an important place in our world of today and in the shaping of tomorrow.

The same general standards of factual presentation and current interest which characterized the old REVIEW will be maintained, along with certain departmental features especially designed for the student, the professional and the library—the news chronology, documentary and bibliographical sections.

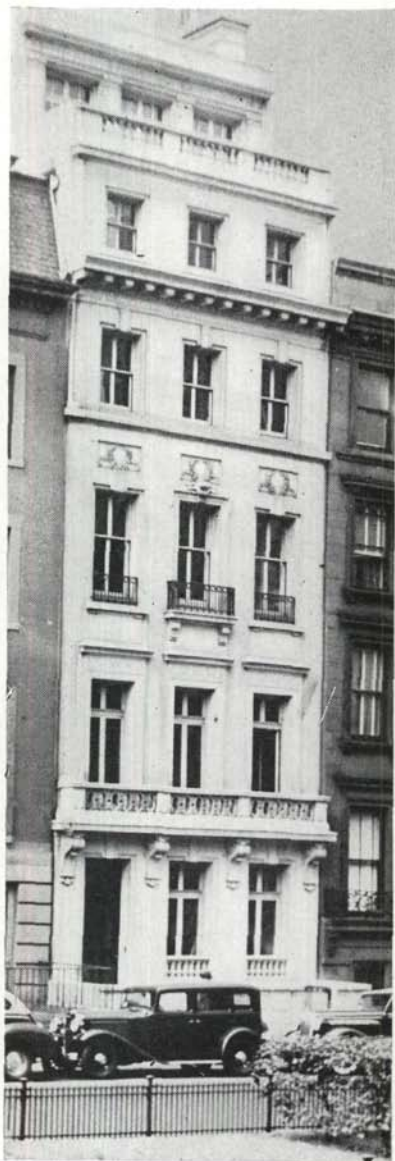
In addition to articles by American specialists on the USSR and the reference services just noted, the REVIEW will answer a great demand of the public interested in Soviet developments by publishing more material translated from the Russian.

Publication of this journal is only one phase of the general program now being developed for the permanent peacetime activities of *The American Russian Institute*—the principal American center of factual information on the USSR. The ARI provides Americans with compre-

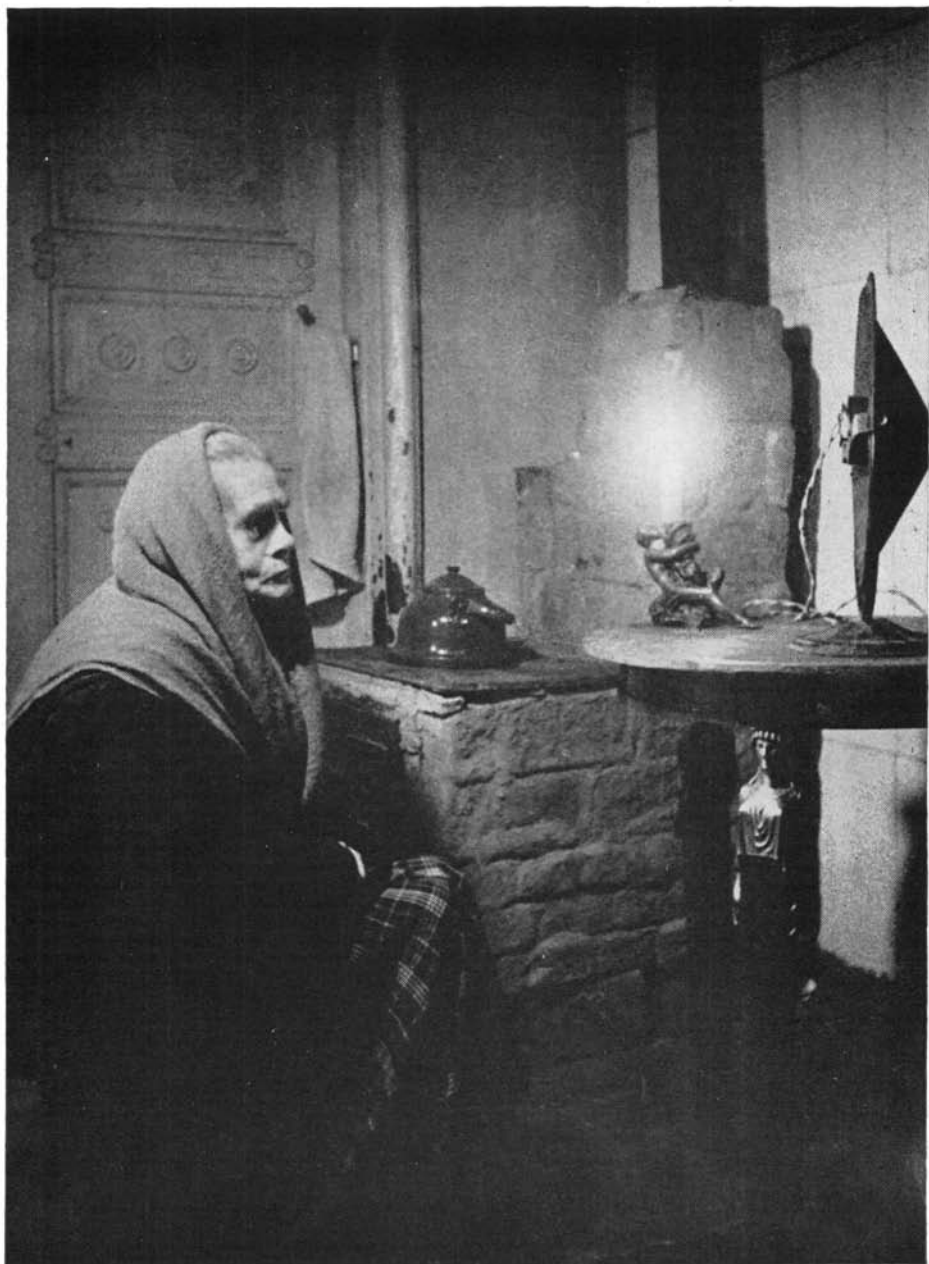
ensive, straightforward information about the Soviet Union and with facilities for their own study; the ARI also assists them in making contact with Soviet citizens interested in the same fields of study.

On this page is a picture of the building which the Institute has recently acquired as its headquarters. At last adequate space is available for The American Russian Institute's library, research and editorial offices, for its seminars and language instruction, for exhibits and other public events.

Through the new program of publication and study now being launched, The American Russian Institute hopes more fully to develop its role as a service organization providing Americans with information on the Soviet Union and facilitating cultural exchange between the two countries, in the belief that enduring peace can be built only on a foundation of real knowledge and understanding of the aims and accomplishments of other nations and peoples on whom this peace depends.



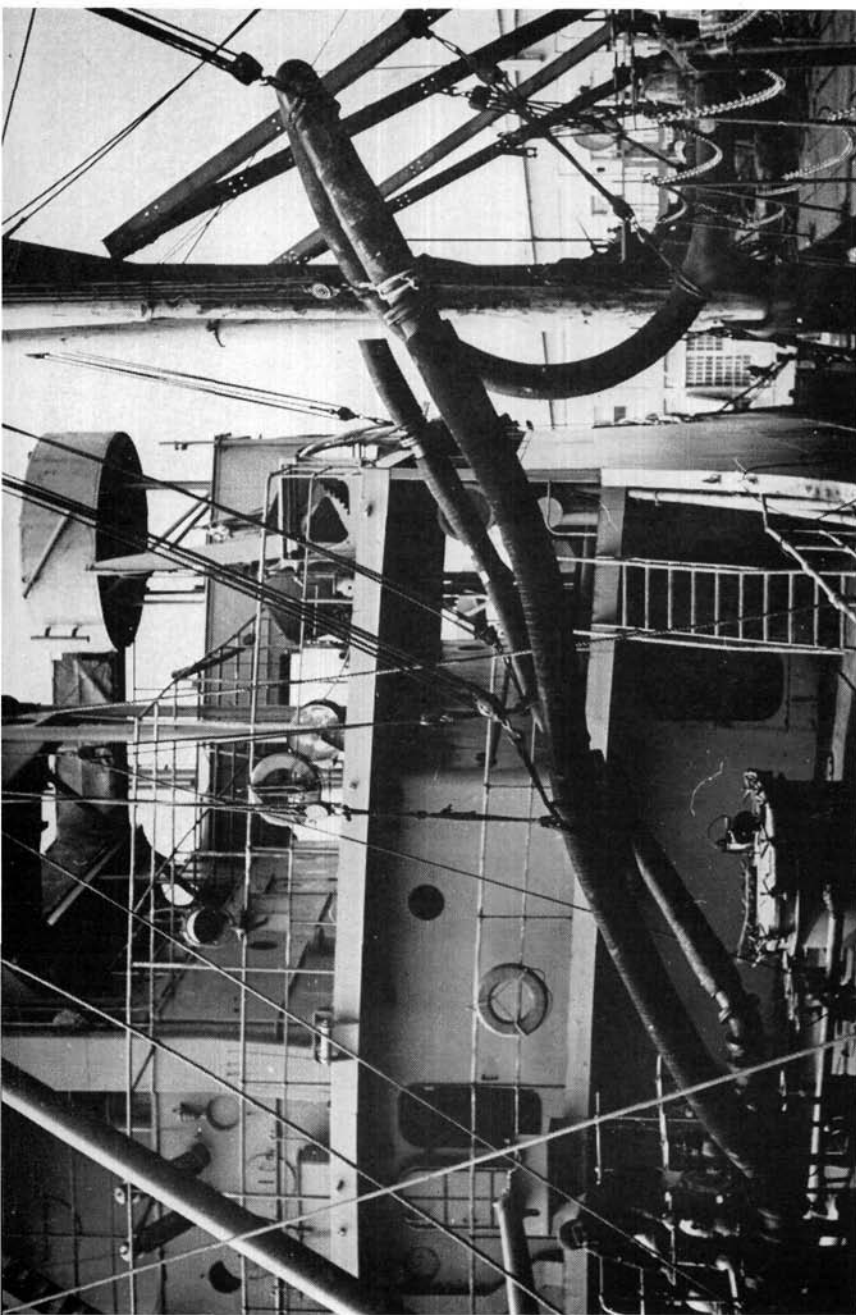
The American Russian Institute
58 Park Avenue, New York



Sovfoto

IN LENINGRAD DURING THE SIEGE residents too weak from hunger to walk kept in touch with each other and the world by radio. The tick of a metronome, replacing regular broadcasts, was the city's pulse for several months.

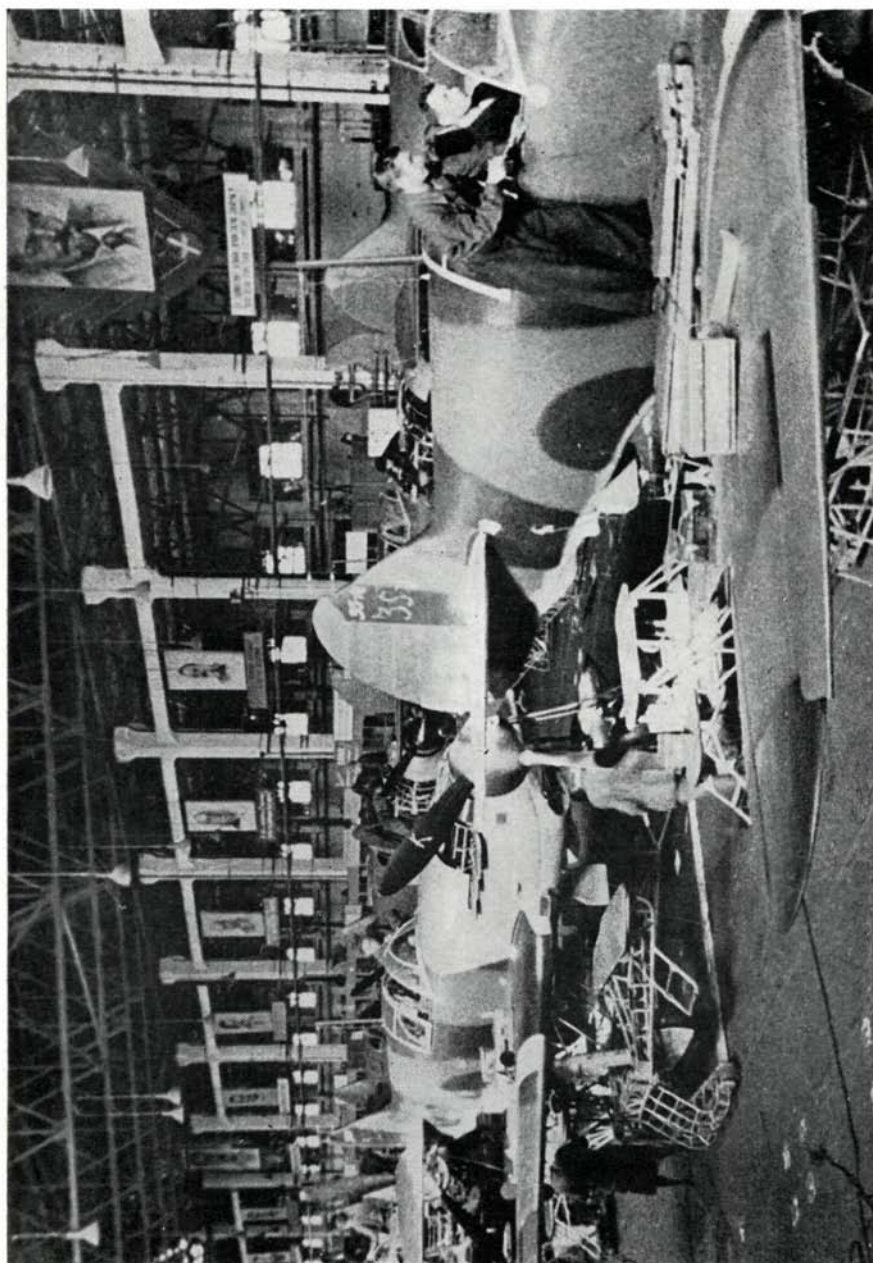
"Frontline Librarians," Olga Berholtz, page 20.



LOADING OPERATION on one of the largest and fastest tankers in the Merchant Marine fleet which carries high-test gasoline to help fuel the war machines of our allies. Under Lend-Lease, the United States has shipped more than 750,000 tons of aviation gasoline and other refined fuels and oils to the Soviet fighting front.

Standard Oil (N.I.) Photo by Libsohn

"Administering Lend-Lease for the Soviets," Major General C. M. Wesson, page 3.



Sovfoto

FINAL ASSEMBLY LINE of an aircraft plant deep in the Urals which turns out fighter craft for the Soviet Air Force. Portraits on the wall are of V. I. Lenin and Government leaders.

CURRENT TRENDS IN SOVIET AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION

ANDREW J. STEIGER

Co-author of the book "Soviet Asia."

THE Soviet aircraft industry, created under the national industrialization plans of the 1930's, has undergone evacuation, conversion and expansion during the war. Although American prototypes have been followed, plane production and design are largely developing along original lines.

"The war is teaching Russia the science of mass production," wrote WPB chief Donald M. Nelson in an article in *Colliers* (Jan. 29, 1944) describing his 1943 visit to the USSR. "But she has gone further than merely take American mass-production formulas. She has done more than adopt these formulas to her own machines, to the temperament of her own workers. I saw in Russia production lines which stemmed from original Russian ideas, some of which we might copy with profit."

Wartime expansion appears to have been most rapid in the production of fighter aircraft and attack bombers. Output has increased greatly and is rising constantly as a result of the complete reorganization of factory work to mass production methods. Productivity of labor is also increasing while net cost is being steadily reduced.

These are the main trends for Soviet aircraft production, as indicated by the available data released in the Russian and American press. Since these trends are in major outline common to the general wartime development of industry throughout the USSR, the available facts regarding growth, design, materials, production methods, labor and output take on added significance.

The Soviets attribute the growth of their pre-war 80,000 miles of civil airways to the prior establishment of a native aircraft industry with foreign technical assistance, chiefly American. The Taganrog plant, for example, was equipped to produce a twin-engined flying boat modelled after the Consolidated PBY and used before the war for reconnaissance in polar regions.¹ In 1939 a Soviet plant was in operation producing 10,000 Wright Cyclone engines a year under license.² Another factory was making Douglas two-engined transports (DC-3's) and it is reported

¹ *Aerosphere*, 1943.

² *Newsweek*, March 25, 1940.

that during the war, this plant was moved with all its machines and half its thousands of workers to Central Asia, where the first plane was turned out 35 days after the last equipment arrived.³ The Soviets also erected a plant which produced a reconnaissance and attack bomber, the British Vultee, V-11, under license.⁴ There is no data on the total number of aircraft plants now in operation, but in November 1943, 64 aircraft plants were cited for high output records in production competitions.⁵

Manifold expansion of factory facilities has been carried out during the war by the aircraft industry's own construction agency. Typical of this organization's capacity is the erection in four and one-half months of a new factory covering 30 acres of shop space, the reestablishment in 35 days of a large evacuated rolling mill for non-ferrous metals, and the building in 60 days of an aircraft plant spread over 20 acres. Moreover, the aircraft builders established what is called "the largest fighter plane plant" in the east.⁶ This may be the plant producing the noted Yak fighters, which was founded in 1942 by the merging of several evacuated plants,⁷ and is now said to be turning out planes like "pancakes."⁸

PRINCIPAL TREND

By 1938, the Soviets had developed heavy-duty transport planes able to carry payloads exceeding the 8-ton bomb loads carried by the powerful British Lancaster bomber.⁹ During the war Soviet planes have carried out long-range bombing raids on Berlin. But the main trend taken in wartime design appears to be the creation of new fighter and attack bombers. Early in the war the Luftwaffe found the Mig-3, doing 360 m.p.h., and the Lagg-5, doing 385 m.p.h., formidable defenders of Moscow, Leningrad and other much-bombed cities. Today the speed fighters of the series developed by and named after designers S. Lavochkin and A. Yakovlev are declared to be superior in combat quality to the latest models of Messerschmitt and Focke-wulf.

The Yak-9 and the Lavochkin-5 are the very latest types, the latter a wooden fuselage plane with engine reportedly based on the Curtis-Wright.¹⁰ Designer Lavochkin has reported that it is "not the last word

³ *New York Times*, July 15, 1944.

⁴ *Aerosphere*, 1943.

⁵ *Intercontinent News*, November 11, 1943.

⁶ *Pravda*, March 23, 1944.

⁷ *Pravda*, December 3, 1943.

⁸ *Trud*, December 30, 1943.

⁹ "Soviet Transport," by William Mandell, *Soviet Russia Today*, February,

1944.

¹⁰ *Time*, November 22, 1943.

in technique" and he is working on revisions. Another recent plane is the Petlyakov-2, a twin-motor dive-bomber, first reported in August 1943.

The Stormovik, "Black Death" to the Germans, is an attack bomber and tank-buster plane, developed by designer S. Ilyushin. Known also as the Il-2, it is said to be a revision of the TSKB twin-engined transport in which the Soviet flyer Kokkinaki flew non-stop from Moscow via the North Atlantic to Canada in 1939. Incorporated also are features of the German Heinkel He-118.¹¹ The Il-4, another type bomber developed by Ilyushin, was used to raid Berlin and Ploesti.¹² The Stormovik has bullet-proof glass covering the pilot's cabin, and operates as a rule directly in front of forward troops, usually with fighter escort.

Intensive experimentation work is being carried on. At the Yak fighter factory, for example, parallel production was maintained last year on seven different types and variant models.¹³ Retooling for mass production of the Yak-9 required 50 days.

In plane and engine design alike, Soviet aviation experts stress co-ordinated effort of designer and technician. Designers work in close contact with production. Designers of the Stormovik engine expect this year to reduce fuel consumption 20 per cent with a corresponding increase of range, to introduce automatic engine control features making for ease of pilot training and relief of pilot fatigue, and to increase the engine service period by 50 per cent, the equivalent of a 150 per cent increase of output.¹⁴

NEW SOVIET ALUMINUM MILL

Aluminum is a basic material used in Soviet aircraft production, but despite expansion of aluminum output, the country still is short on this material. Lend-lease goods shipped to the USSR, Donald M. Nelson revealed in February 1944, has included "enough aluminum to build some thousand fighter planes a month."¹⁵

In the Urals the first 20-acre section of a new Soviet mill for processing aviation aluminum alloys went into operation in May of this year.

To economize on metal, plastic bonded plywood is used. Such is the Lagg-5 fuselage. The Lavochkin-5 fighter is partially made of what Russian writers call delta wood, manufactured of birch and pine split into very thin boards, which are covered with resins and subjected to

¹¹ *Aerosphere*, 1943.

¹² *Information Bulletin of the Embassy of the USSR*, August 21, 1943.

¹³ *Izvestia*, May 19, 1944.

¹⁴ *Pravda*, May 27, 1944.

¹⁵ *Survey-Graphic*, February 1944.

pressure. Delta wood is 50 per cent lighter than duraluminum.¹⁶ The production of gas tanks from fibre has been mastered at the Yak fighter plant.¹⁷ A cork-bearing oak, cousin of the Caucasian cork tree, discovered in the dense jungles of the Amur forests, is now used for manufacture of aviation cork.¹⁸ Evidently wood has its limitations. A recent report on the "modernizing" of the Stormovik plane indicates that a number of parts formerly made of wood are being replaced by metal details.¹⁹ Most original of the materials developed is the transparent armor plate used to protect pilots. Created before the war by Leningrad chemists, who collaborated with glass blowers in casting a specially hardened glass, the new material is called "Stalinite." Its weight is only half that of triplex glass, and it is reported to be shatterproof, even when hit by shells. Output of this material in 1942 was twelve times above that of 1941, and during 1943 production was 40 times over.²⁰

To meet the increased output schedules of wartime, Soviet aircraft industry has adopted what Russians call the direct flow production method, a variable form of the conveyor system. The entire production cycle for engines, wings, fuselages, even aeronautical instruments, has been reorganized to provide the most rationalized flow of details through all stages of assembly.

THREE MAIN TYPES

Although the conveyor system is not new in Soviet aviation industry, one aircraft engine works having utilized a form of conveyor method as early as 1923,²¹ the present reorganization along direct flow lines dates from 1942-43 and is still in process of perfection. It is a remarkable industrial achievement that warplanes never ceased to roll out of the factories for delivery to the fighting fronts even while entire factory sections equipped with hundreds of machines were being rearranged to ensure more efficient production. The process of production organization itself is being made continuous. New flow lines are developed for each new model or for every increase of output quotas.

The production flow lines developed are of three main types. First is the usual assembly conveyor with forced rhythm, moving at a fixed speed. One such conveyor described is equipped at each fitter station

¹⁶ *Moscow News*, June 25, 1943.

¹⁷ *Izvestia*, March 17, 1944.

¹⁸ *Information Bulletin of the Embassy of the USSR*, Sept. 7, 1944.

¹⁹ *Pravda*, May 19, 1944.

²⁰ *Izvestia*, November 18, 1943.

²¹ *Izvestia*, September 12, 1943.

with blue lamps that burn exactly one and a half minutes, the time allowed for attaching parts. "Flow is an alarm clock," writes one Russian workman, "it keeps one awake."²²

Second is the alternating or pulsating flow line, in which large mechanical aggregates are built up as they move in trucks fixed to a continuous haulway, that alternately stops and goes. Third is the staging or stationary method. For example, in wing assembly, six stands are used, the wing section under assembly being moved by travelling or boom cranes from stage to stage. Introduction of this method has reduced the labor involved by 20 per cent, the workers engaged by 24 per cent, and raised output 36 per cent.²³

The direct flow line established for fuselage assembly liberated 18,000 sq. ft. of shop space, cut the distance travelled to one third and the assembly time by 28 per cent.²⁴ Through the new methods, fuselage assembly time last year was cut from 160 to 64 hours.²⁵ During the first quarter of this year, 26 new flow lines have been set up at the Lavochkin-5 fighter plant. Labor time for each machine has been cut by 620 hours.²⁶

To keep pace with the increased plane output, mass production methods are also applied in making instruments. When a Leningrad instrument plant, evacuated to the Urals, went over to direct flow lines, one bottleneck was production of the watch-jewel settings used in precision instruments. Output was always behind demand. A plant engineer invented an automatic cutting machine which released 18 lathes and 36 highly skilled locksmiths for other work. In one week the new machine produces enough jewel settings to supply the plant for six months.²⁷

NEW TECHNIQUES INTRODUCED

New techniques have been introduced to speed up output of parts and prevent hitches. In one plane section 200 holes, formerly drilled, are now stamped out. Metal-cutting tools are being replaced by presses in making parts of aerial bombs.²⁸ Cold pressing of metal is employed. Heat treatment furnaces are set up right in the assembly line. By the use of electric heating in glueing plywood details, the work cycle was

²² *Pravda*, January 17, 1944.

²³ *Trud*, October 12, 1943.

²⁴ *Trud*, December 22, 1943.

²⁵ *New York Times*, June 4, 1943.

²⁶ *Pravda*, April 13, 1944.

²⁷ *Izvestia*, November 3, 1943.

²⁸ *Izvestia*, April 7, 1944.

cut to one-fifth and shop space used to one-eighth.²⁹ Electric welding is replacing riveting.³⁰ At one plant a new method of casting non-ferrous metals under pressure or "in cokille," as Russians say, has resulted in an annual economy of 7000 tons of moulding clay and 1,500,000 kw. hrs. of electric power.³¹ In making the fuselage of a fighter plane, before direct flow methods could be introduced, it was necessary to shift from gas to electric welding. If gas welding had been employed to meet the new output schedule, it would have required three times more workers and three and one-half times as much shop space as is being used.³²

When the plant goes over completely to direct flow, timing is the essence. Russian writers say that the Soviets mastered continuous steady delivery on a daily schedule early in 1943, and are now striving to attain a rhythmic output on an "hourly basis."³³ When one instrument plant, making automatic pilots, went on direct flow methods, the output for each shop and each workman within the shop was estimated in "quota-hours."³⁴ This indicates a very high degree of internal coordination to make every minute count in an unimpeded high-level output.

Designers emphasize that defects in new plane and engine models should be eliminated in the shops, before the plane is put through its flying tests; otherwise much time is lost revising dies and machine tools.³⁵ The gas and oil systems of fighter planes are now all shop-tested for leaks, which can easily be repaired before the plane is delivered to a test-flight station.³⁶ Each plane section passing down the flow lines carries a passport, in which is registered any parts out of alignment or not perfectly fitted, so that kinks can be ironed out before final assembly. In the testing of welded joints and metal parts for invisible defects, a magnetic defectoscope has been developed from imported instruments designed for laboratory use only. The new instrument, called a "magnoflux," can be operated by semi-skilled workers and needs no special demagnetizing attachment. Water is used in place of oil or kerosene in the immersion bath.³⁷

Discussing the changes in Soviet production methods, the *New York Times* reported from Moscow in June, 1943: "One technical expert

²⁹ *Izvestia*, December 24, 1943.

³⁰ *Izvestia*, December 24, 1943.

³¹ *Trud*, March 2, 1944.

³² *Pravda*, December 3, 1943.

³³ *Izvestia*, March 17, 1944.

³⁴ *Izvestia*, March 30, 1944.

³⁵ *Pravda*, May 27, 1944.

³⁶ *Pravda*, February 4, 1944.

³⁷ *Izvestia*, July 6, 1943.

revealed that the conveyor belt system in Soviet aircraft plants was deliberately modeled on American methods. With labor-saving and production speed-up objectives in view, virtually every plane factory in Russia has now been entirely replanned." The report emphasized that this was being done "without any outside help on a large scale." This contrasts with the early days of Soviet automobile manufacture, when the conveyor system was adopted with the technical assistance of General Motors and Ford.³⁸ Russian engineers are coming of age.

The labor saving achieved by the new methods is illustrated by the flow line developed for the assembly of one plane aggregate weighing 40 lbs. which previously had to be lifted 250 to 300 times a shift. Now it is built up on moving trucks, and lifted once during 12 fitting operations, or about 20 to 25 times a shift. The eight flow lines introduced have made it possible to release 84 workers for other assignments.³⁹

SEMI-SKILLED LABOR EMPLOYED

Since extensive division of labor is carried through and operations are greatly simplified, semi-skilled labor can be employed on a large scale. In an aviation instrument plant now operating by the direct flow method, recent graduates from industrial training schools have replaced many highly skilled craftsmen, who are urgently needed in more exacting work.⁴⁰

In putting the new Yak speed fighter into mass production, a labor saving of 25 per cent compared to earlier models was attained. The new model is being produced without adding new workers to the plant.⁴¹ Productivity of labor among producers of the Stormovik and Lavochkin fighter planes has more than doubled since the planes went into production.⁴² But most indicative are the results attained by the builders of the Yak fighters, output of which has increased six-fold during the past two years.⁴³ Meanwhile the labor involved has been halved and production time per machine cut to one-quarter.⁴⁴ In other words, one month's labor in 1944 produces four times more machines than it did in 1942. During the two years ending May, 1944, average productivity of labor in the aircraft industry as a whole rose 47 per cent, according to *Pravda*.

³⁸ *New York Times*, June 4, 1943.

³⁹ *Pravda*, January 17, 1944.

⁴⁰ *Izvestia*, November 3, 1943.

⁴¹ *Izvestia*, May 19, 1944.

⁴² *Pravda*, October 4, 1933 and April 13, 1944.

⁴³ *Izvestia*, March 17, 1944.

⁴⁴ *Pravda*, December 3, 1943.

Productivity of labor is stimulated by the usual incentives of better pay for improved work and special privileges, such as extra low-price meals, first choice in buying consumers goods, and reservations at health resorts. A 25 per cent reduction in production costs effected by labor saving methods in the Lavochkin-5 plant, has been used to establish a fund for money premiums to outstanding workers.⁴⁵ In addition, the achievements of especially able workmen are publicized over the shop radio and in the Soviet press. Photographs of the best workers are posted on the bulletin boards with an account of their attainments.⁴⁶ During the first two years of the war, about 6000 workers of the aviation industry were awarded medals and state decorations.⁴⁷

Since Soviet industry has been wholly organized for war production, shortages in consumers good have been a problem. One way of coping with the shortages has been to stimulate local artisan output, often through utilization of waste materials. During the war, aviation industry workers have doubled their output of consumers goods.⁴⁸ At the Lavochkin-5 fighter plant, for example, about 100 items are made from scrap. Included are spoons, buckets, stoves, rakes, school appliances, children's toys, potato peelers, tables, stools, and brushes.⁴⁹ Shoes are likewise produced in quantity from a composition material called "Textovinite." It is said to be waterproof and stronger than leather. Production of 150,000 pairs of these shoes is planned for this year.⁵⁰

Provisions for general workers' welfare are good. Shower baths have been installed in almost every shop. Local rest homes have been organized to care for vacationers and sanatoriums provide medical aid for the sick and disabled. One report refers to a children's center caring for more than 1000 youngsters. Another tells how school children are transported by a "blue auto bus along the snow-covered road" to spend their winter vacation at the local factory health resort.⁵¹

Housing accommodations for aircraft workers were expanded by three million square feet of new dwellings last year. At the same time, capital repairs were made on 16 million square feet of aircraft factory housing.⁵² An entire workers' town was built adjacent to the Yak aircraft plant.

Since the Tenth Session of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR in

⁴⁵ *Pravda*, May 14, 1944.

⁴⁶ *Pravda*, May 3, 1944.

⁴⁷ *Trud*, August 15, 1943.

⁴⁸ *Trud*, December 4, 1943.

⁴⁹ *Pravda*, October 4, 1943.

⁵⁰ *Trud*, December 4, 1943.

⁵¹ *Trud*, January 8, 1944.

⁵² *Pravda*, March 23, 1944.

February 1944, when this year's budget was adopted, a campaign has been waged in the Russian press on the necessity of cutting production costs. One set of analyses presented, for example, reveals that, in three plants having almost identical equipment and personnel, net costs may vary per conditional item from 210 to 335 rubles.⁵⁴ Efficiency of production management is stressed as the basis for lowered costs. One well managed plant attained a reduction of 23 per cent in net costs last year.⁵⁵ The cost of producing the Yak fighter plane was reduced 14.5 per cent during 1943.⁵⁶ It is emphasized that reduction of net costs adds millions of rubles to the state budget, at the same time enhancing the value of the internal currency. At one plant various rationalization measures carried through in 1943 effected a saving of 1,200,000 rubles, and many such economies are pointed out.⁵⁷

In November 1943, it was reported that Soviet production of aircraft had tripled during the war.⁵⁸ At that time it was stated that the USSR was manufacturing 3,000 planes monthly as compared to 3,500 British and 10,000 American.⁵⁹ Since then Soviet output has risen. At an aircraft engine works in the Soviet east, where production was stepped up 250 per cent over a period of 18 months, output last January was 82 per cent above the monthly average for the first half of 1943.⁶⁰

No overall production figures are available, but it should be remembered that Soviet war planes and anti-aircraft defenses in the first 30 months of the war destroyed more than 53,000 German planes on the eastern front,⁶¹ which considerably reduced the enemy's initial air superiority. In addition, the Soviets have restored to service many damaged planes. It is standard practise for their aircraft factories to send brigades of technicians to the front for this work. One such brigade was reported in December 1943 to have restored 400 damaged planes to combat duty in the course of 300 trips to the front.⁶²

The data available on trends in Soviet aircraft production indicate a high degree of mastery in a vital and complicated branch of modern industry. It can be taken for granted that this development is not limited to the airplane industry.

⁵⁴ *Pravda*, May 15, 1944.

⁵⁵ *Pravda*, May 25, 1944.

⁵⁶ *Izvestia*, March 17, 1944.

⁵⁷ *Trud*, April 12, 1943.

⁵⁸ *Pravda*, November 18, 1943.

⁵⁹ *New York Times*, December 7, 1943.

⁶⁰ *Trud*, March 2, 1944.

⁶¹ *Pravda*, November 18, 1943.

⁶² *Intercontinent News*, December 30, 1943.

THE USSR AND THE PACIFIC WAR

HARRIET L. MOORE

Expert on Soviet Far Eastern Relations, and author of a forthcoming book on the subject to be published by the Institute of Pacific Relations.

THE Soviet Union's role as a Far Eastern power has long been obscured by the overriding concern of the Western Powers for its policies in Europe. As the march of the United Nations against the Nazis and their satellites approaches victory, attention is being increasingly turned to consideration of the USSR as a member of the Pacific community. There, as in Europe, belated recognition of the new Russia appears in retrospect as one of the underlying reasons for the successful headstart the aggressor nations gained in their campaign of conquest.

Today myth-making about the part the USSR intends to play in the Far East is far easier than in Europe and just as dangerous, for in many respects the future of the Pacific is more complicated than that of Europe. A constructive solution of its varied problems will only be achieved with good faith and mutual trust among all the United Nations in that area. To this end it is important to realize that the present "non-participation" of the USSR in the Pacific phase of the war does not arise from any lack of interest in the outcome in the East, but rather from just the opposite: extreme concern for the outcome coupled with a very delicate strategic position.

The Soviet Union is no newcomer to the Far East, and indeed, as the Russian Empire before it, it has perhaps always had more immediate national interests at stake in the Far East than any other western nation. Its long eastern border extends from Alaskan waters, past territories now held by Japan, to China, thereby involving it in the fate of the three most important Pacific powers. It was in the Pacific that Russia and America first made vital contact; the Russians were the first westerners to come into conflict with Japanese military prowess; Russia was the first Western power to enter into treaty relations with the haughty Chinese Empire and across its land frontiers early trade developed.

While the 1917 Revolution ruptured many links to the past and reversed many policies, it did not diminish Soviet attention to its Pacific position. To realize this, it is only necessary to recall the intimate association of the Soviet Government with Sun Yat Sen's revolution and the subsequent sharp break with the Kuomintang, or the protracted Japanese Intervention in the Russian East after the last war and the persisting presence of Japanese fishing concessions in Soviet waters.

However, the purpose of this article is not to review the long history of the Soviet Union as a Far Eastern Power, but rather to analyze the background of its present situation there.

Soviet neutrality toward Japan, based on the April, 1941 Treaty, has indeed been strict—all necessary legal technicalities of neutrality have been strictly observed—but Soviet neutrality has also been limited strictly to the observance of these technicalities. Not only has the Soviet press from the week of Pearl Harbor indicated its conviction that the Allies would win and its sympathy with them, but the Soviet government has officially associated itself, as far as neutrality permitted, with the United Nations in the Far East. While Soviet representatives have not attended conferences at which the conduct of the war in the Pacific was under discussion, they have not only become signatory to the United Nations Agreement to which China is a party, but it was in their capital that the Four-Power declaration on Post-War Security was signed and it was on their initiative, according to Sir Alexander Cadogan,¹ that the Dumbarton Oaks follow-up conversations have taken place. Thus, both officially and unofficially, the Soviets continue to pass judgment on Japan as the aggressor.

SOVIET POLICY SINCE 1931

Of course, this attitude does not date from Pearl Harbor—it dates from 1931. Ever since Japan's invasion of Manchuria, Soviet policy has combined condemnation of Japan with tactics to avoid a military clash with the aggressor. During the five years when the USSR was in the League of Nations, it added the third facet to its Far Eastern policy which is now apparent again in the Moscow Declaration, namely: advocacy of collective action to check aggression in the Pacific as much as in Europe.

Within this general framework, the USSR has relations with Japan. The most important of these from the strategic viewpoint stem from the Portsmouth Treaty—the treaty exacted by Japan as the price of its victory in 1905. This treaty was virtually the only pre-revolutionary document that was confirmed by the Soviets; its confirmation was a concession made to put an end to Japanese intervention in the Soviet Far East and to restore normal relations.

The two provisions of the Portsmouth Treaty which are most important deal with the fisheries and Sakhalin. Sakhalin Island was until 1875 held in condominium by Japan and Russia. At that time an exchange was made. Russia got Sakhalin and Japan got the Kurile Islands, which

¹ *New York Herald Tribune*, Aug. 22, 1944.

too had previously been jointly held. At Portsmouth, Japan demanded the cession of Sakhalin, but in the end settled for the southern half of the island.

However, during the period of Intervention (1918-1925) Japan occupied the northern half of the Island as well, and it was during that period that it first became interested in the oil and coal deposits. As a consequence, in the post-intervention settlement the Japanese demanded the right to continue exploitation of the mines and wells that they had developed. It was these concessions which were terminated in 1944, 25 years ahead of schedule, as part of the agreement originally made in April, 1941 when the neutrality pact was signed. This removes Japan from northern Sakhalin, guardian of the mouth of the Amur. But the ultimate fate of southern Sakhalin may rest on the Cairo Declaration that "Japan also will be expelled from all other territories which she has taken by violence and greed."

Japanese fisheries in Russian waters are also dependent on Portsmouth and hence are integral to continued Soviet-Japanese relations. While the terms on which Japanese fishermen are allowed to operate there have been a subject for continual bargaining (bargains which, incidentally, have since 1936 become worse and worse for Japan in terms of price and locations), the basic right goes back to 1905.

IMPORTANCE OF PORTSMOUTH TREATY

The importance of the Portsmouth Treaty lies in these two facts: first, that it was written into the agreement establishing Soviet-Japanese relations in 1925; second, that it was confirmed at that time in its entirety, including the provisions regarding the withdrawal of Japanese (as well as Russian) troops from Manchuria and the demilitarization of the Korean-Russian border—provisions which have been flagrantly violated by Japan. While Moscow has on various occasions pointed out these violations, it has not chosen to abrogate the Portsmouth Treaty or the 1925 treaty because of them.

So much for the legalities of Soviet-Japanese relations. Behind them lie the geographic and strategic realities of their positions which become apparent on careful study of the map.

At present, the Soviet Union has a 2,000-mile armed front with Japan, running across Sakhalin, to Korea, Manchuria and south along the border of the Mongol People's Republic, with which the USSR has a Mutual Assistance Pact (1936) "with teeth," as Japan learned to its grief in 1939. At either end of this fortified zone are important trade routes, linking

Siberia with the Allies: the Alaskan-Siberian airline and the Portland-Vladivostok sealane at one end, and the Alma-Ata—Sinkiang—Chungking truck road at the other end.

The sealane to America is of course extremely vulnerable, passing through Japanese waters as it goes through the chain of Kurile Islands, which reach to the tip of Kamchatka. On it ply Soviet ships, carrying civilian goods. The airline, as we now know, is serving the European front. American aircraft, fighters and bombers, are flown by Soviet aviators from Alaska to the front. Since the American recapture of the Aleutians, this line is far from potential battle fronts.

The third trade artery, that across Sinkiang, has served the China front when all other major lines of supply were cut. It too lies well away from Japanese holdings, though at one time when Japan was penetrating more and more deeply into Inner Mongolia, it was considered in some danger.

THE CRUCIAL AREA

The crucial area for Soviet-Japanese relations, however, lies between these two extremes. On the one side of the fortified zone are the broad plains of Manchuria and the great Japanese war industries in South Manchuria and North China. On the other, backed by mountains and forests, is the narrow Amur Valley through which passes the vital Trans-Siberian Railroad, joining Siberia with the new industrial and armament centers of the Soviet East—Khabarovsk, Komsomolsk and Vladivostok. How many troops stand guard across this frontier no one knows in precise terms, but that the numbers have remained large is generally believed to be the case. Neither side can afford to invite attack.

On the other hand, neither side has felt inclined to take the offensive. Evidently the Japanese have thought it best not to enlarge their land front, especially a front that could potentially be reinforced with men and material from America more easily than any of the existing fronts in China. For the Soviets to launch an attack would be even more of a gamble, as their hinterland is so narrow that even slight reverses could prove extremely damaging to their supply lines.

The United States Army has explained the Soviet position in these terms:

“What about Siberian bases for attacking Japan? Vladivostok lies at the end of a long supply line which is particularly vulnerable from Khabarovsk down. The Japanese army has 500,000 troops deployed all along this supply route. If we or the Rus-

sians were to use these bases to bomb Japan, the bases would immediately be made useless and Russia would be involved in a two-front war. Russia is engaging the main Nazi strength and a two-front war for Russia would diminish the pressure on the worried Nazis and endanger the plans of our own army."

(*War Dept. Record*, a film issued in 1943.)

The very fact that the subject of why Japan and Russia are not at war is generally discussed abroad indicates that the rest of the world understands the sentiment—or lack of sentiment—behind Soviet-Japanese neutrality.

China has a Non-Aggression Pact with the USSR, signed in 1937, and providing—in contrast to the Japanese Neutrality Treaty, which is silent on this point—that:

"In the event that either of the High Contracting Parties should be subjected to aggression on the part of one or more third Powers, the other High Contracting Party obligates itself not to render assistance of any kind either directly or indirectly to such third Power or Powers at any time during the entire conflict, and also to refrain from taking any action or entering into any agreement which may be used by the aggressor or aggressors to the disadvantage of the Party subjected to aggression." (Art. 2.)

USSR BROUGHT FIRST HELP

The Chinese are well aware of the fact that in their war against Japan, it was the USSR which brought them the first help. The first planes to rise and meet the Japanese in 1937 were not General Chennault's. They were Soviet planes and Russian-trained pilots. Soviet guns were in the hands of the Chinese soldiers, desperately fighting to slow the advance in those first years. It was also a Soviet statesman who time and again at Geneva stated the case for all-out aid to China.

Yet in the last year there have been indications that all is not well in Soviet-Chinese relations. There is little doubt that the amount of material aid from the USSR to Chungking has diminished, perhaps more than can be accounted for entirely in terms of the Soviets' own war needs. There have been various recent articles in the Soviet press commenting on the weaknesses of China's war effort. There are stories in the Chinese press, regarding Soviet "ambitions" in Manchuria, and Korea. And finally, there was the withdrawal of Soviet economic aid from Sinkiang, China's westernmost province.

These events can be adequately assessed only against the background of history and a knowledge of China's internal situation. Enough has been published in the American press to indicate that none of China's allies is too happy over the way in which the Chinese government is currently handling its internal problems, which so immediately affect the Allied war effort against Japan. Since the USSR is not a military ally of China, it has not become involved in the negotiations aimed to improve this situation. What seems to have happened is that Chinese-Soviet relations have become virtually inactive—they are neither good nor bad.

As to Chinese concern over Soviet "ambitions," it seems to have its close parallel in Europe. Those who voice fears of Soviet aggrandisement in Manchuria or Korea are probably actually worried about the spread of the Chinese Communists and their united front "border governments" into Manchuria, just as those who paint a terrifying picture of "communism" rampant throughout Europe are actually more afraid of the progressive ideas of the resistance movements within the occupied countries than they are of Soviet expansionism. Naturally the internal tension in China between the Kuomintang and the Communists cannot but aggravate this sort of speculation.

The Sinkiang episode also seems to have arisen out of internal Chinese politics.² And while its outcome—the loss of productive installations in Sinkiang—cannot be to the advantage of China, nor can the event itself add warmth to Soviet-Chinese relations, it has not resulted in recriminations between the two countries nor has it changed basic Soviet policies.

USSR—A PACIFIC POWER

Soviet Far Eastern policy is based on national interests too compelling for it to be swayed from its course by unpleasant incidents. For the USSR, security—and that means peace—in the Pacific is as important as peace in Europe. It will be recalled that it was the Far Eastern crisis that first changed Soviet planning and caused it to place greater emphasis on military preparedness.

The same principles prevail in the East as in the West. Soviet security is held by Soviet leaders to be based on (1) Soviet strength; (2) the presence of strong, stable and friendly neighbors, no matter what their governmental forms; (3) the construction of international machinery to stop aggression when and if it arises.

² See Lattimore, Eleanor, "Sinkiang Incident," *Far Eastern Survey*, May 3, 1944.

This means in the Far East that the USSR needs and wants a strong and friendly China, a defeated and reformed Japan, and a collective organization to keep the peace. That these are its aims seems corroborated by its aid to China through the years when China stood virtually alone; by its alignment with the United Nations in the Pacific and its sharp criticism of Japanese aggression, and by the Moscow Declaration.

After the last war, the Soviet Union was excluded from the Pacific settlement at the Washington Conference of 1921-22, just as it was excluded from the European Settlement. Whether or not the military denouement of the current conflict in the Pacific finds the USSR at war with Japan depends on factors outside the knowledge of all but perhaps the Chiefs of Staff of the Allied or Axis countries. But however that may be, the Soviet Union seems assured of participation in the international organization to keep the peace in the Pacific, both because it is a strong Pacific power and because its policies there since 1931 have been consistently on our side—against Japanese aggression—even when we did not realize that that was our side.

Provisions for paying Japan for its renditions of concessions of Sakhalin specified that deliveries of oil are to begin “after cessation of the present war.” Commenting on this agreement, *Pravda* observed, “The Soviet Union when concluding these agreements took into account the specific circumstances facing our Allies as a result of the war in the Pacific.”³ This is the most recent evidence of the fact that, despite Soviet technical neutrality, Moscow is already acting on the assumption that it has a responsibility to its Allies in the Pacific and to the winning of the war.

³ *Pravda*, April 1, 1944.

SOVIET CITY PLANNING

An Example

HANS BLUMENFELD

A former member of the Russian State City Planning Institute, now associated with the Philadelphia Housing Association.

AS Soviet territory is liberated by the Red Army, the people are faced with the tremendous task of rebuilding their cities. Nearly half of them have been severely damaged; many are totally destroyed.

Liberation is immediately followed by the first steps toward reconstruction. While those British communities which have suffered most severely from bombings, like Coventry and Plymouth, are only now working out master plans for their future, the rebuilding of Soviet cities follows plans which had previously been developed and confirmed.

The cities had adopted these plans to guide the transformation brought about by the industrialization of the country, in conformance with legislation enacted at the beginning of the first Five-Year Plan. This law obliges every city to control its physical development by a master plan, which is legally binding once it is confirmed by the executive committee of the province soviet (council). The legislation was implemented by the creation of several organizations which undertook to work out master plans on the basis of contracts with municipalities with industrial organizations placing factories in rural areas.

It was the good fortune of this writer to participate, from 1930 to 1933, in the work of one of these organizations, the State City Planning Institute of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic (*Giprogor* RSFSR). While great progress has been made since that time, the basic approach has remained the same. An example of this work, replanning of the city of Vladimir, may therefore be of interest.

Following the precedent of the Ukraine, which had set up its own *Giprograd*, the Russian Republic in 1930 created *Giprogor* by merging the map publishing service and the central architectural project office, both of which had already branched out into city planning. The new organization had three departments: surveying, architecture, and city planning. The last-named section began functioning with a staff of about 100 men and women—architects, draftsmen, and economists—assisted by a number of part-time consultants in such fields as location of industry, agriculture, transportation, sanitary engineering, landscape gardening, public hygiene, and education.

These consultants, as well as the leading members of the full-time staff, had all been persons of high professional standing under the old

regime. Most of the younger employees also came from families of the former middle class or intelligentsia, but they had received most of their education in Soviet schools. Surprisingly, no member of the Communist Party was employed in this rather important department when it started its operations, but during the following years several joined the staff after completing their professional training. At first no foreigners worked in *Giprogor*; however, I was soon joined by several American, German, and Czech architects, most of whom later became Soviet citizens.

The department was divided into groups of about 10 to 12 architects, technicians, and draftsmen. Each group, called a brigade, was headed by a senior architect—the brigadier. A project was assigned to a brigade by agreement between the management and the brigadier, who in turn allotted the work to the members of the brigade. Economists, organized as a special group under the general direction of the Chief Economist, were attached to the various brigades for specific projects.

RESPONSIBILITY OF BRIGADIER

The brigadier was responsible for completion of the work within certain limits of time and cost. Before a project was submitted to the client—usually a city council—it had to be approved by the *Giprogor* Technical Council, consisting of *Giprogor* consultants and a number of other experts. Following open discussion in which many members of the staff usually participated, the Council passed judgment on the basis of presentation by the brigadier and of a critical evaluation by another member of the organization, serving as reporter.

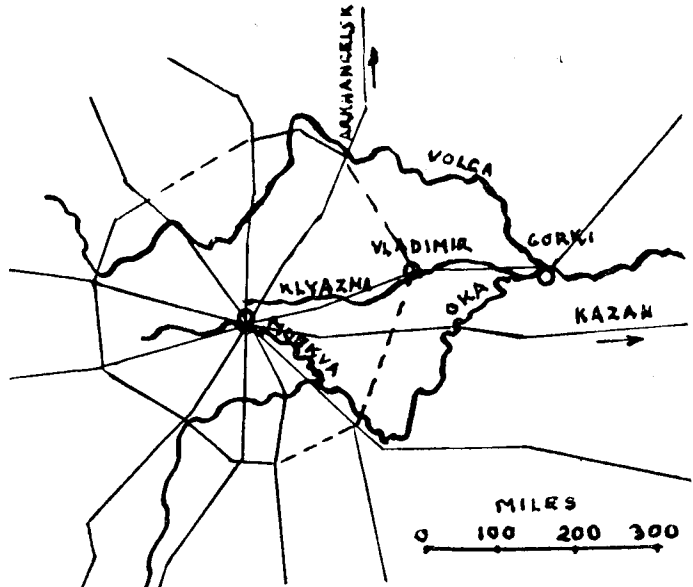
Vladimir is situated 120 miles east of Moscow in rolling country on the river Klyazma, about two miles above the mouth of a small tributary, the Rpen (see small map and plan A). One of the historic cities of Russia, in the 12th century it was the capital, succeeding Kiev and preceding Moscow. However, the Tatar invasion broke its power, and not until the 18th century did it regain some importance as an administrative, commercial, and cultural center.

The original fortress or *Kreml*, two Romanesque churches, and several Empire style buildings surrounding a small park remained as the administrative and cultural center. West of this nucleus, and founded only a few years later, was the commercial city, with a large market (hollow square on plan A) and with shops lining the main street up to the medieval “Golden Gate.” Both the “Kreml city” and the “merchants city” retained their old earthen walls, transformed into green boulevards.

The city developed east and west along the main street, which became

part of the highway from Moscow to Gorki (formerly Nizhny-Novgorod). The street follows the ridge of a bluff which towers steeply above the Klyazma while it slopes down gently toward the north and east into the valley of a small creek, the Lybed. Crossing this main axis, a road coming from Yuryev, to the northwest, follows the boulevard between the two sections of the original city, then descends steeply to the river to traverse it by a floating bridge.

Except for some two- and three-story brick buildings in the center, the city consisted of wooden dwellings hidden in gardens. With the white walls of its historic buildings rising picturesquely out of the green of its



COMMUNICATIONS due east from Moscow (Moskva). Straight lines indicate railroads operating when Vladimir plan was drawn; dotted lines show planned railroads.

famed cherry orchards, Vladimir lived the quiet life of a provincial city. The brick works on Yuryev Road (1 on plans), built on rich beds of clay, were the only big industrial enterprise; in 1931 they employed 1200 workers. In addition there were about 2400 men working on the Moscow-Gorki railroad, craftsmen, civil servants, and people employed in the service trades. The total population in 1930 was 42,000.

Plans for the city had been made in 1925 and again in 1928. Both plans were based on the assumption of a slow growth on the basis of the traditional occupations. The first had provided for additional residential

quarters of a garden city type; the second attempted to improve the interior organization of the city by providing for a modern system of streets and utilities.

PLASTICS AND AVIATION PLANTS

The program of industrialization initiated by the first Five-Year Plan called for the creation of many new industries, including one of the USSR's first plastics factories. Vladimir was selected as the site for plastics production for a number of reasons. Near-by peat bogs supplied one of the main raw materials, while the road and railroad from Moscow to Gorki provided good transportation to the automobile works, then under construction in both these cities, which would be the principal consumers of its output. Moreover, the nearness of Moscow facilitated co-operation with scientific institutes. Labor with a background of skills acquired in cottage industries could be recruited in Vladimir and in the surrounding countryside. Finally, a new building erected to house a textile factory had become available through shifts in that industry's plans, and a sufficient supply of water was easily available (2 on plans).

In 1932, with additional buildings still under construction, 1600 workers were already employed in plastics production. At full capacity, the factory was to employ 10,000.

A factory for the making of aviation instruments, which would utilize some of the products of the Plastics Works, was also assigned to Vladimir because of the locational advantages mentioned above. Plans for this factory were completed and the site was being prepared for construction (3 on plans). Upon completion, the instruments plant was to employ 8,400 workers, with further expansion possible to a maximum of 12,000 employes. A railroad spur which would serve the old brick works as well as the new factories was also under construction.

Contrary to the practice adopted later, the sites had been selected by the industries concerned before a new city plan was worked out. Only after construction was well under way did the city of Vladimir commission *Giprogor* to develop a new master plan for the anticipated increase of population caused by these two factories.

The factory administrations made available fairly accurate information as to the number of workers, the consumption of water, power, and heat, as well as to the average and maximum tonnage of road and railroad traffic which they would generate. Data on the planned expansion of the city's cultural institutions, and on the services required and furnished by the surrounding countryside were obtained from the planning de-

partments¹ of the City and County Soviets.

A meat-packing plant employing 600 was planned for the general neighborhood of Vladimir, and might be built in the city. Vladimir was also being considered as a possible location for a big automobile body factory to be started toward the end of the second Five-Year Plan. The workers of these five big plants, together with those to be employed in construction and transportation and in some smaller plants, might reach a maximum of 30,000. On this basis, the future population of the city was calculated at 109,000.

Further development would depend largely on plans for the river Klyazma and for the railroads. Information concerning these perspectives was obtained from the province, state, and national planning departments as well as from those of the road, railroad, and river administrations.

The railroads planned to complete the eastern half of the circle which connected the lines radiating from Moscow (see small map). Vladimir would thereby become an important junction for branch lines connecting the line to Gorki with those to Archangel and to Kazan.

THREE POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

It had also been decided that Moscow should be connected with the Volga by a waterway navigable for sea-going ships. Three possible solutions were under discussion (see map). The existing connection through the winding Moskva and Oka rivers could be deepened; a canal could be built from Moscow to a point to the north on the upper Volga (this was the plan finally adopted and carried out a few years later); or the Klyazma, which flows from the northern suburbs of the capital due east to Gorki, could be transformed into a deep waterway.

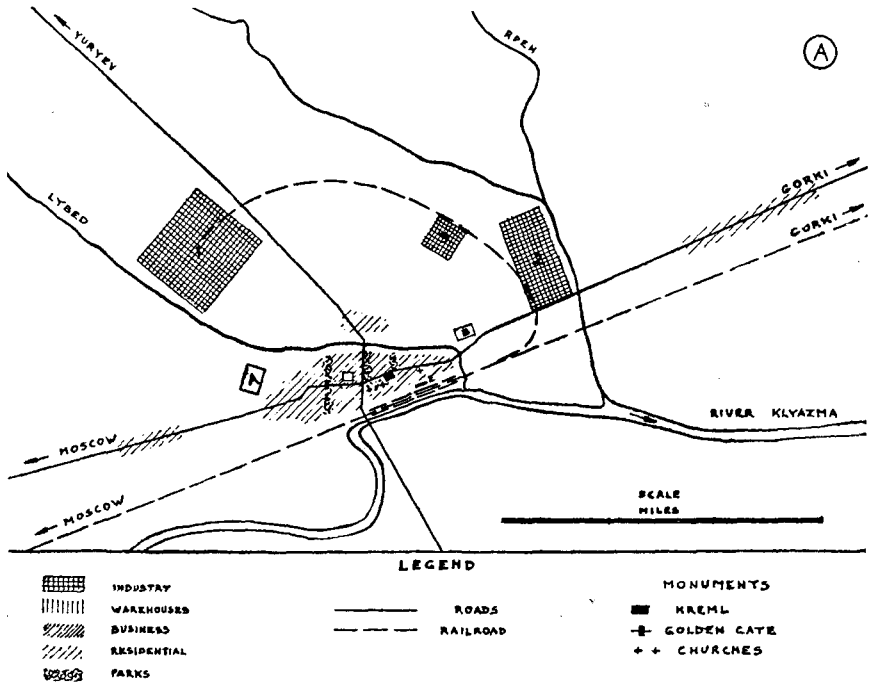
If this third solution were adopted—as seemed likely at the time—Vladimir would become the point of intersection of the circumferential railroad with all main connections between Moscow and the East, by water, rail, and road. It was to be expected that so favorable a location would be chosen to develop a harbor and warehouses, a shipyard, and various factories both for light and heavy industries, with a future population up to 170,000 persons. Because of these as yet undecided questions, two schemes were worked out, one for a first stage with 109,000 inhabitants, and one for a possible ulterior stage with a population of

¹ Such departments, which exist in every unit of government as well as of industry, are concerned with social-economic planning—*planirovannoya*—as distinct from *planirovka* or physical planning.

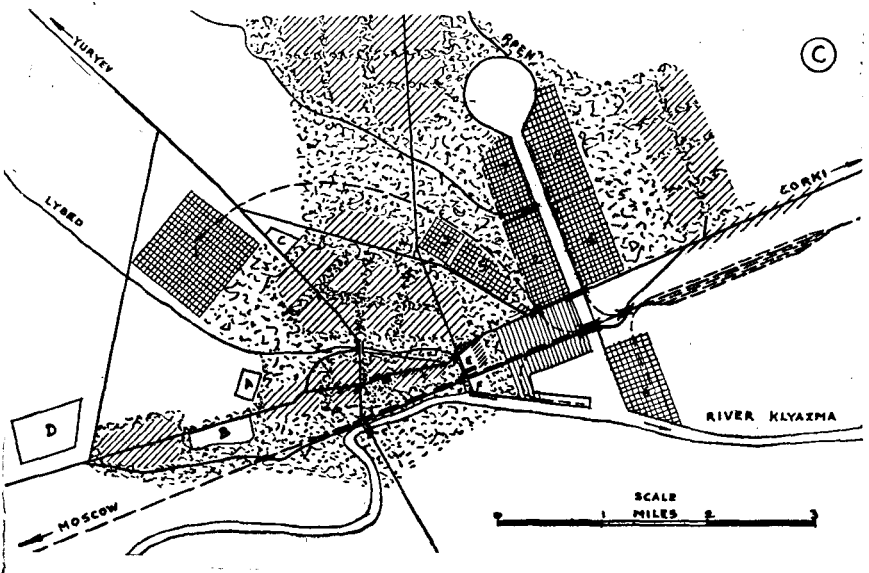
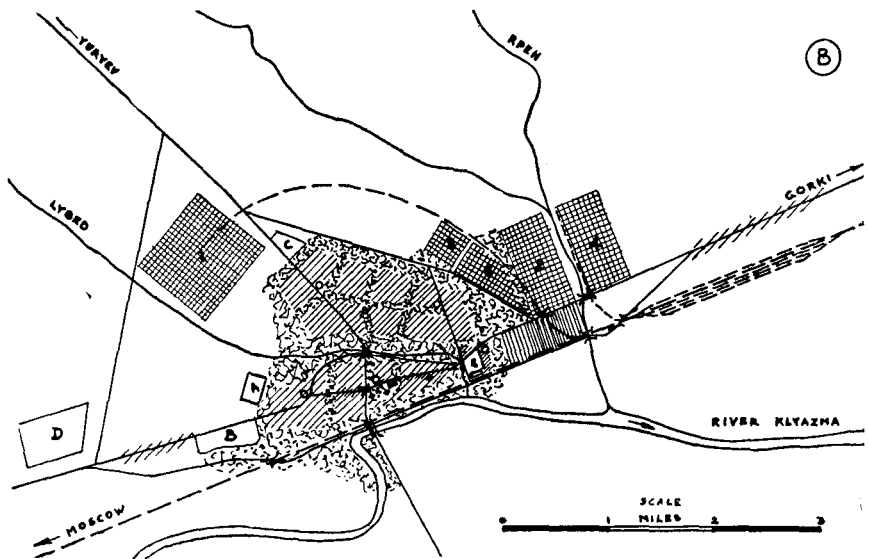
170,000. This method of planning for two stages constituted a rather novel approach at the time, for while it was not unusual to present several schemes, these were considered as alternatives, not as consecutive steps.

In essence these schemes were land use plans, designating various parts of the city territory as industrial, residential, or recreational areas (plans B and C).

The level eastern part of the city along the river Rpen is allotted to heavy industry, the high level ground to the west to residential sections. Thus, industrial sewage is released into the river below the city and, with western winds predominating, smoke and smells are driven away from the residential sections. The banks of the Klyazma and the valleys of the streams are given over to parks. For added protection a green belt, two-thirds of a mile wide, is interspersed between the area of heavy



PLAN A is of Vladimir in 1931, when there were 42,000 inhabitants. B and C on the opposite page constitute the two-stage reconstruction schemes developed, B for a city of 109,000, and C for a possible ultimate population of 170,000. Legend above refers to the three plans, on which numbers denote factories and letters denote institutions.



industry and the residential sections. This belt is interrupted only by the factory of aviation instruments and the railroad spur serving it.

To be served by this same spur and a projected road for heavy traffic is an area for other non-noxious industries (5 on plans B and C). A site opposite the plastics factory, on the river Rpen, was selected for the meat packing plant (4 on plans B and C). The area between the railroad and the road from Moscow to Gorki is reserved for warehouses.

Should the Klyazma become a deep waterway, the warehouse area would be expanded into a triangular harbor district between the railroad, the Klyazma, and the Rpen (see plan C). The site on the other side of the mouth of the Rpen would be reserved for a shipyard (6 on plan C). Other sites on either side of the Rpen (7 and 8 on plan C) would be available for other industries, and the Rpen would be transformed into a navigable canal. At the upper end of the harbor area, adjacent to the river park, a pier for passenger steamers and pleasure boats would be provided (F on plan C), close to the new railroad station (E on plans B and C).

THE FIRST STAGE

A new central square was to be created in the first stage. Situated between the railroad station and the main street, it would replace the old market square as a site for mass meetings, demonstrations, and the like. Around this square, equally accessible to all parts of the city and to arrivals by railroad or boat, Vladimir's most important buildings were to be erected. Stores and offices would extend along the main street from the square to the old city center. The square and street together would correspond roughly to an American business center. It was not anticipated at the time that the use of the individual automobile would become as general as it is in this country, so serious parking problems were not expected.

In addition to the city's industrial, commercial, residential, and recreational areas, space had to be allowed for several special uses.

The barracks (A on plans) with their adjoining training grounds restrict the expansion of the city to the west. However, as plenty of suitable residential territory was available closer to the main places of employment, it was decided to confirm their existing location as permanent.

The county jail and a mental hospital were to be removed to the countryside, in conformance with general policy. The general hospital, situated on low land close to the future traffic center and to heavy indus-

try (B on plan A) was to be transferred to high wooded ground at the western end of the city (B on plans B and C).

An agricultural college then occupied the buildings of an old monastery (indicated by cross in eastern part of old city). It was suggested that these buildings be reserved for the school of chemistry which was to be established in connection with the plastics factory. The agricultural college was to be transferred to territory adjacent to its experimental fields on Yuryev Road (C on plans B and C). Lack of suitable burial grounds had long worried the city authorities. A high sandy field west of the city was selected as a cemetery site (D on plans B and C).

A site for an airport was earmarked on Yuryev Road, about 10 miles from Vladimir.

A new residential area was developed north of the old city, on a plateau between the two creeks. It was divided into 10 superblocks, each averaging about 50 acres and separated from the others by highways and interior green boulevards. Building was to proceed from east to west, starting with the block closest to the two new factories.

DENSITY REDUCTION

Density within each superblock was to equal 100 persons per acre in the ultimate stage. It was anticipated, however, that residential building would lag behind the rapid growth of population for 10 or 15 years. During this period, with overcrowding of dwellings continuing, density would be about 150 per acre. Thus, the new residential *rayon* (district) was to house 70,000 persons in the first stage, but only 46,500 ultimately. Because of the housing shortage, moreover, the old city was to be left unchanged at this stage, except for the most urgent improvements to streets and utilities.

Reduction of density was to start with the addition of another superblock north of the road, and to continue with the development of a third residential district on the plateau farther north and with the transformation of an old village west of the hospital into a modern residential district (see plan C). Simultaneously, the old city would be reconstructed, with historic buildings preserved, and the territory reorganized into seven blocks, divided by the existing main streets and the historic earth wall-boulevards. Scattered buildings on the slopes and in the valleys were to be torn down and their sites included in the parks.

At a density of 100 persons per acre, and with normal occupancy of each dwelling, the old city would house only 18,000 persons instead of the previous 35,000. Together with the three new areas, it would be

able to accommodate the population of 109,000 anticipated for the "first stage."

Should further growth take place, the northern district would be extended by four additional blocks housing 20,000. Finally, a new district for 40,000 persons might be developed on high ground east of the Rpen valley, after elimination of smoke and noxious gases from the industries. Both districts would be relatively close to the area provided for industrial expansion.

In addition to dwellings, each superblock was to contain a small community building, a restaurant, and a grocery store, and also nurseries and kindergartens. Since it was known that at least 50 per cent of the workers in the two new big factories would be women, and that both plants would work in three shifts, it was decided that nursery schools and kindergartens should be built immediately for at least 35 per cent of all children in those age groups, a percentage considerably higher than usual in 1931. With the subsequent lowering of density, and with an anticipated relative increase of the older age groups, these institutions would be able to take care of 60 per cent of all children.

The theory which regards the elementary school as the central element of the superblock, strongly advocated at the time by the German architects of the Ernst May group working in Russia, and today generally accepted in this country, has never won wide support in the Soviet Union. The schools were grouped at various points at the edge of each residential district, in connection with playfields included in the surrounding park strips, and could be reached without crossing traffic streets.

The local parks were to be supplemented by the city park on the banks of the Klyazma, with a bathing beach located just above the bridge.

ALLOCATION OF CLUBS

The residential districts also were provided with their own shopping centers, medical centers, and clubs. Vital centers of the social and cultural life of the Soviet people, the clubs serve the entire population of the neighborhood, but are usually attached to big plants and run by their shop committees. This was taken into consideration in determining their location (small circles on plan B). The existing club in the old city was to be run by the municipal workers. The club on the new central square would become the new central club, serving the workers of the plastics factory, in addition to the railroaders and, eventually, dock and shipyard

workers. At the western end of the old city would stand the House of the Red Army. Clubs in the new northern region would be attached respectively to the aviation instruments works (3) and to the agricultural college (C). The location of the cultural centers of other areas was to be decided when they became ripe for development.

The general plan of the city was closely related to the pattern of roads and railroads.

The passenger station (E on plan A) and the freight yards were situated on a narrow strip between the hill and the river. Only one very steep and winding street connected the station with the town. Because of lack of space the railroad administration was considering transfer of the railroad yards to the east.

This intention was confirmed by the plan, which provided for a new freight yard east of the Rpen. The transfer facilitated the elimination of the grade crossing of the existing spur and the building of additional spurs to service future industries and docks. In addition, the territory of the old railroad station and yards could be included in the city park, connecting the city with the river.

The passenger station was to be transferred to the new central square (E on plans B and C). From this square a new road was to be built to the aviation instruments works and later to be extended to the northern residential district. Another street, starting near the central square and following the valley of the Lybed creek, had already been planned in 1928 in order to deflect through traffic from the main street.

OTHER TRAFFIC PLANS

Yuryev Road also carried a considerable amount of through traffic to the center of the old city. In addition, the grade from this point down to the river was dangerously steep. It was decided to carry this street on a new bridge across the river and the railroad, then in a tunnel under the main street—utilizing the bed of the old city moat—and again on a bridge across the Lybed creek and the projected valley road, thus levelling out the grades and eliminating three grade crossings. Moreover, to relieve the city streets, two diagonal roads, branching off near the brickworks, were to connect Yuryev Road with the highways to Moscow and Gorki. The most complicated problem was presented by the main road from Moscow to Gorki. In addition to funneling the Moscow-bound traffic of a territory of almost 10,000 square miles through the whole length of Vladimir, this road was to become part of a great transcontinental *autostrada* from Moscow to Siberia. It was proposed that this traffic be car-

ried around the city between the railroad and the river, underpassing the railroad above and below the city.

Work on the scheme had started early in October, 1931, and it was submitted to the Technical Council of *Giprogor* at the end of December. After lively discussion, the project was approved by this council, and subsequently presented to the Mayor and City Council of Vladimir in public session.

The next step in the sequence of events will sound oddly familiar to American readers. Since the contract with *Giprogor* had been signed, an election had taken place in Vladimir. The new mayor had come in on an "economy" platform. After having thanked the planners for their fine work, he remarked that the work would have to be discontinued for the time being because of lack of funds. As a result, few questions were asked and the decision was deferred to a late date. About half a year later the work was taken up again; however, this writer lost track of further developments because he had meanwhile left Moscow to work in the Gorki branch office of *Giprogor*.

The normal procedure at the time was to present the scheme for discussion by public meetings in the main plants and institutions. Thereafter the *Giprogor* brigade which had worked on the "Scheme" elaborated it further to present a very detailed "General Plan." This after final confirmation became the mandatory master plan of the city.

PROCEDURE SIMPLIFIED

This cumbersome two-step procedure was later simplified. The original scheme is now supplemented merely by detailed plans for the main architectural features of the city and for the areas to be developed during the next three to five years. Detailed plans for later developments are made as and when they are needed.

The cities have sufficient legal powers to enforce the plan once it is adopted. They are entitled, and indeed obliged, to refuse a building permit to any project which violates the plan. They dispose of the entire city territory, and every piece of land must be allotted to its user by the land department of the city or county council.

Legal powers alone are of little avail, however, if those holding them do not understand the importance of using them. In the early thirties, city planning was little understood by the general public, and the few available specialists were concentrated in the big cities. Local administrations, lacking expert advice, were inclined to give in to pressure from the

administrations of industries and institutions, and to allot land and to issue building permits in violation of the accepted plan.

Since that time great advances have been made. Many cities now have their permanent city planning departments, which are able to guide the physical development of their cities. Even in smaller communities, the city engineers have acquired sufficient knowledge to translate the plan into terms of day-to-day work. Local governments, having become aware of their responsibility in guiding the overall physical development of their communities, are responsive to expert advice. Especially since the inauguration, in 1933, of the widely publicized plan for the reconstruction of Moscow has public opinion become increasingly conscious of the importance of city planning.

Today the Soviet Union is well prepared to meet the tremendously challenging task of rebuilding half her cities. A wide sphere is opening up for an exchange of ideas and experience between American and Soviet city planners.

KEEPING POSTED ENROUTE

TRAIN PASSENGERS whose business takes them to the city of Sharya, Gorky Region, find a large illuminated war map, the latest military reports of the Soviet Information Bureau, and a lecturer prepared to explain the latest war developments to them when they descend to the station platform, *Pravda* reports. The lecturers discuss the news from all fronts, and are prepared to answer passengers' questions about it.

Trainloads of wounded soldiers stopping over at Sharya are visited in their cars by groups of young men and women who read newspapers to them, and by children eager to sing and recite.

Pravda praises the Sharya officials responsible for these services, and suggests that other cities might well follow suit.

NEWS IN BRIEF

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

PROCESSING SUGAR BEET

ADOPTION OF a simplified new method of processing sugar beet which is expected to ease transportation strain considerably and to change sugar refining from a seasonal to a year-round industry has resulted from experiments conducted in the Ukraine in connection with restoration of the war-destroyed sugar industry. N. S. Khrushchev, chairman of the Ukraine Council of People's Commissars, predicts in *Pravda* that widespread adoption of this method will facilitate a rapid expansion of beet planting, a higher seasonal output and speedy restoration of the great Ukrainian sugar industry.

Heretofore, the sugar beet—75 per cent water and a bulky load—has been transported for considerable distances and with losses which have amounted to hundreds of millions of rubles. Moreover, delivery of this perishable raw material has usually been made at a period when manpower, vehicles, and draft animals are otherwise fully occupied; the alternative has been premature harvesting or delayed delivery, involving loss of beet and sugar. Transportation of the crop also has taxed Ukrainian railroads. Sugar beet constituted from 20 to 40 per cent of the total freight carried by the Odessa, Southwestern and Southern lines during the 1937-38 season.

The new method of processing makes it unnecessary to carry the raw beet for any great distance, according to *Pravda*. Instead, inexpensive processing plants servicing one large or several small collective farms will ultimately dot the countryside in the sugar areas and turn out transportable briquettes of concentrated beet juice which will be shipped to refineries serving a network of these plants. The pulpy by-product of the pressing process (90 per cent water) will not have to be shipped to and from the refinery but will be returned from the semi-processing plant to the outlying districts where it is in great demand as livestock fodder.

In the first stage of the new production process, the juice is extracted from the beet, subjected to evaporation and turned into briquettes of concentrated juice. Experiments show that these briquettes can be

stored without loss or chemical change for several years, so the plan is to have fewer refineries work on the same beet crop throughout the year instead of as a seasonal activity.

Equipment used in the initial processing plants—a compact aggregate easy to install—includes a machine for soaking and cutting the beets, a juice-extracting apparatus, and a station for evaporating the water from the juice. Thus concentrated it is poured into forms where it cools naturally and is removed as hard briquettes. A small boiler and engine, or a locomobile capable of producing from 30 to 75 horsepower is sufficient to operate the equipment, and the steam released by the boiler is used in the evaporating process. Each plant requires an operating staff of 15 to 20 persons.

At least four of these countryside plants are believed to be in operation in the Ukraine now; another 50 plants, each capable of handling about 20 to 40 tons of beet daily, are scheduled for completion next year. Studies have been under way throughout the beet-growing areas to determine the number and location of additional semi-fabricating plants necessary to limit the delivery radius on beets to about four miles—about one-fifth of the average distance the perishable raw beet has to travel under the old processing method.

TRANSPORT RECONSTRUCTION

A RECONSTRUCTION program, strongly influenced by methods and materials developed during the war and by foreign experience, is planned for Soviet transport, according to Academician Vladimir Obraztsov, who makes it plain that mere restoration of destroyed railroads will not satisfy the Soviet Government. Writing in *Izvestia*, he stresses the fact that railway transport will be closely coordinated with auto truck and air transport.

“Thirty per cent of the stations in our country have one car of freight per day,” he wrote. “Does that justify the maintenance of such stations? The necessity for the operation of a great many existing stations is rather questionable—their functions will gradually be taken over by auto-transport. . . . Passenger traffic no less urgently requires the development of aviation. . . . We must hastily bring about the electrification of transport, which our calculations show will halve fuel expenditure on our railroads.”

The necessity of “maximum mechanization,” to be initiated in the process of railroad restoration, is also stressed.

Academician Obraztsov has been planning the reconstruction of industrial and mining traffic in the Donbass. He has won the Stalin Prize and wears the Order of Lenin.

RESTORATION OF ELECTRIC POWER PLANTS

A. I. DROBYSHEV, Vice-Commissar of Electric Power Stations in the USSR, declared in a recent interview¹ that power facilities demolished by the Germans were being rapidly restored throughout the liberated area. By May of this year, more than 50 powerful turbines and generators, 70 steam boilers, 2,500 miles of electric transmission lines and 200 substations were again in operation. Included were two 50,000 kwt. turbo-generators at the Zuevskaya station in the Donbass, where all basic district stations have been reestablished.

Mobile electric stations, mounted on trains or trucks, have usually moved in behind the liberating forces to restore municipal lighting facilities as well as shop and mine motors. The machine-tools thus put into operation contribute to the repair of demolished equipment at the local stations being restored, often by installation of turbo-generators salvaged from debris. The supply of steam boilers has now reached pre-war levels.

Assistance is given by areas in the rear. Power plant workers at Karaganda, for example, made a mobile electric station in 1943 and sent it from Asiatic Russia to help restore the Shterov electric station in European Russia.² Large shipments of urgent materials and spare parts are air-shipped and dropped by parachute to the needy areas.

Restoration of the transmission line that supplies the Donbass city of Voroshilovgrad was started late last winter, but spring rains, which turned roads and fields into quagmires, halted work five miles short of the city. Neither horses nor tractors could be used to string the final cable. To complete the circuit into Voroshilovgrad, local citizens volunteered to carry the last lengths of wire on their backs.

In connection with restoration, Soviet specialists are also considering additional sources of power. Prof. V. Vetchinkin, winner of a Stalin Prize, holds that the wind force over the wide expanse of the Soviet Union is potentially able to generate 100 times more power than the

¹ *Izvestia*, May 23, 1944.

² *Izvestia*, September 1, 1943.

(Continued on page 124)

DOCUMENTS

SUPREME SOVIET INCREASES AID FOR MOTHERS AND CHILDREN, MAKES CHANGES IN DIVORCE LAWS AND OTHER PROCEDURES GOVERNING FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

TEXT OF DECREE ISSUED JULY 8, 1944,

BY PRESIDIUM OF THE SUPREME SOVIET

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has issued an edict on increasing State aid to expectant mothers, mothers of large families and unmarried mothers; the protection of motherhood and childhood; and institution of the honorary title of Mother Heroine, the Order of Glory of Motherhood and the Motherhood Medal.

The welfare of children and mothers and the consolidation of the family has always been one of the major tasks of the Soviet State. Protecting the interests of mother and child, the State extends substantial material aid to expectant mothers and mothers for the maintenance and upbringing of children. During the war and after the war, when considerable material difficulties exist for many families, State aid must necessarily be extended.

In order to increase material aid to expectant mothers, mothers of large families and unmarried mothers and to encourage large families and increase the protection of mother and child, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics resolves:

First, to increase State aid to mothers of large families and unmarried mothers.

1. To establish that State allowances are to be granted to mothers of large families (whether the husband is living or not) on the birth of the third child and of each subsequent child, instead of the existing procedure of granting State allowances to mothers of six children on the birth of the seventh and of each subsequent child.

2. Payment of State allowances to mothers of large families is to be effected as follows: On the birth of the third child to a mother with two children, a single grant of 400 rubles. On the birth of a fourth child to a mother with three children, a single grant of 1,300 rubles and a monthly allowance of 80 rubles. On the birth of a fifth child to a mother with four children, a single grant of 1,700 rubles and a monthly allowance of 120 rubles. On the birth of a sixth child to a mother with five children, a single

grant of 2,000 rubles and a monthly allowance of 140 rubles. On the birth of a seventh child to a mother with six children, a single grant of 2,500 rubles and a monthly allowance of 200 rubles. On the birth of the eighth child to a mother with seven children, a single grant of 2,500 rubles and a monthly allowance of 200 rubles. On the birth of a ninth child to a mother with eight children, a single grant of 3,500 rubles and a monthly allowance of 250 rubles. On the birth of a tenth child to a mother with nine children, a single grant of 3,500 rubles and a monthly allowance of 250 rubles. On the birth of each subsequent child to a mother with ten children, a single grant of 5,000 rubles and a monthly allowance of 300 rubles.

Monthly allowances to mothers of large families are to be paid beginning with the second year of the child's life and continuing until the child reaches the age of five.

Mothers with families of three, four, five or six children at the date of issue of the present Edict will receive allowances under the present Article for every child born after the publication of the present Edict.

Mothers with families of seven or more children at the date of issue of the present Edict retain the right to receive large family allowances according to the procedure and in the amounts set forth in the decision of the Central Executive Committee and the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR of June 27, 1936, namely, for the seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth child, 2,000 rubles each annually for five years from the day of the child's birth, and for each subsequent child 5,000 rubles in a single grant and 3,000 rubles each annually for four years, beginning with the child's second year. For every child born after the publication of the present Edict, allowances will be paid in accordance with and in the amounts set forth in the present Article of the Edict.

In determining State allowances for large families, children killed or missing on the fronts of the Patriotic War are to be included.

3. To establish allowances for unmarried mothers for the maintenance and upbringing of children born after the publication of the present Edict in the following amounts: 100 rubles monthly for one child, 150 rubles for two children and 200 rubles for three or more children.

State allowances to unmarried mothers are paid until the children attain the age of 12.

Unmarried mothers with three or more children are entitled to allowances issued in accordance with Paragraph 2 of the present Article, in addition to the allowances provided for under the present Articles.

Upon her marriage an unmarried mother retains the right to the allowance provided for under the present Article.

The mother who received alimony for children born prior to the publication

of the present Edict retains the right to receive alimony until the children come of age, but is not entitled to receive the allowance provided for under the present Article.

Mothers of children born in 1944, prior to the publication of the present Edict, who have not been receiving alimony are entitled to the allowance provided for under the present Article.

4. If an unmarried mother wishes to place her child in an institution for children, said institution is obligated to accept the child, who will be maintained and brought up fully at the expense of the State.

The mother of the child has a right to reclaim it from the institution and to bring it up herself if she so desires.

While the child is in the institution, no State allowance is to be paid.

5. To increase single grants paid from the social insurance funds and the mutual aid funds of producers' cooperatives, for newborn infants, from 45 rubles to 120 rubles, facilities to be extended for the purchase by the mother of layettes for this amount.

Second, to increase the privileges for expectant mothers and mothers, and on measures for extending the network of institutions for the protection of mother and child.

6. To increase maternity leaves for women factory workers and office employees from 63 to 77 calendar days (35 days before and 42 days after childbirth), with payment during this period of the State allowance in the amounts fixed heretofore. In the event of an abnormal birth or the birth of twins, post-natal leave is to be extended to 56 calendar days.

Managers of enterprises and institutions must grant expectant mothers annual vacations, which must be timed to precede or follow maternity leave.

7. After four months' pregnancy, women are not to be given overtime work at enterprises and institutions, and women with infants are to be exempted from night work throughout the period of nursing.

8. To double additional food rations for expectant mothers beginning with the sixth month of pregnancy and for nursing mothers during four months of nursing.

9. Managers of enterprises and institutions must render aid to expectant mothers and nursing mothers by issuing additional food products from auxiliary farms.

10. To reduce by 50 per cent fees at kindergartens and nurseries for the accommodation of children of parents with three children and with monthly earnings up to 400 rubles, with four children and with monthly earnings up to 600 rubles, with five or more children regardless of earnings.

11. To instruct the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR:

(a) To approve the plan for the organization in Republics and Re-

gions of additional mother and child centers, and also of special rest homes for needy unmarried expectant mothers, as well as for nursing mothers in ailing health. Inmates of such rest homes are to perform light tasks compatible with the state of their health.

(b) To approve the plan for the extension of the network of children's institutions under the People's Commissariats and other departments; to provide accommodations for all children in need of such service, at the same time to provide for the extension of the network of medical consultation centers for children, and of milk kitchens, of nurseries for infants and evening accommodations at kindergartens and maternity institutions in areas liberated from the German invaders.

(c) To provide for the obligatory organization at enterprises and institutions where women are employed in large numbers, of nurseries, kindergartens and special rest rooms for nursing mothers.

(d) To make it obligatory for the People's Commissariats in their plans for industrial construction to provide for the building of children's institutions (nurseries, kindergartens, mother and child rooms) with accommodations sufficient for all children of women employed at the given enterprise and in need of such services.

To approve measures for the considerable extension of the output of clothing and footwear for children, toilet accessories for children, and the like, both for children's institutions and for sale to the general public, as well as for the extension of the chain of workshops producing children's clothing and shops catering to mother and child.

Third, on the institution of a Motherhood Medal and the Order of Glory of Motherhood; on the establishment of the honorary title Mother Heroine.

12. To institute a Motherhood Medal, First and Second Class, for award to mothers who have given birth to and reared six and five children respectively.

13. To institute the Order of Glory of Motherhood, First, Second and Third Class, for award to mothers who have given birth to and reared nine, eight, and seven children respectively.

14. To establish that the title of Mother Heroine is to be conferred upon mothers who have given birth to and reared 10 children, this award being accompanied by the presentation of the Order of Mother Heroine and a scroll from the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

15. The award of the Order of Glory of Motherhood and the Motherhood Medal, as well as the Mother Heroine title, comes into effect when the last child born reaches the age of one year, if the remaining children from the same mother are living.

Children killed or reported missing on fronts of the Patriotic War are to be included when these awards are made to mothers.

Fourth, on the tax on single men and women and citizens with small families.

16. In modification of the Edict of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR of November 21, 1941 "On the tax on single men and women and childless citizens of the USSR," tax will henceforth be levied upon citizens who have no children and on citizens who have one or two children: for men over 20 and up to 50 years of age and for women over 20 and up to 45.

17. The tax is to be levied in the following amounts:

(a) Citizens paying income tax will be taxed to the extent of six per cent of their income in the absence of children, one per cent if they have one child and one-half per cent if they have two children.

(b) Collective farmers, individual farmers and other citizens of households subject to the agricultural tax will be taxed to the extent of 150 rubles annually in the absence of children, 50 rubles annually if they have one child and 25 rubles annually if they have two children.

(c) Other citizens having no children will be taxed 90 rubles annually, those with one child 30 rubles annually and those with two children 15 rubles annually.

18. To exempt from the tax:

(a) Servicemen of the rank and file, sergeants and petty officers.

(b) Army and Navy officers of units and organizations on active service.

(c) Wives of servicemen specified in points (a) and (b) of the present Article.

(d) Women receiving allowances or pensions from the State for the upkeep of children.

(e) Citizens whose children have been killed or reported missing on fronts of the Patriotic War.

(f) Men and women students of secondary and higher schools up to 25 years of age.

(g) Invalids belonging to the first and second categories of invalidity.

Fifth, on changes in laws on marriage, family and guardianship.

19. To establish that rights and obligations of husband and wife provided for under the Code of Laws of the Union Republics on marriage and family, re guardianship, accrue from legally registered marriages only.

Persons who have been married de facto prior to publication of the present

Edict may legalize their relations by registering the marriage and stating the actual period of their conjugal life.

20. To abolish the existing right of a mother to appeal to the court for the purpose of establishing fatherhood and claiming alimony for the upkeep of a child from a man to whom she is not legally married.

21. To establish that upon the registration of the birth of a child whose mother is not legally married, the child is given the mother's surname and any patronymic the mother might indicate.

22. The registration on passports of marriages, indicating surnames, names and patronymics and year of birth of the other party to a marriage, as well as the place and time of registration of marriage is obligatory.

23. To establish that divorces are to be effected publicly through the courts. At the request of husband or wife a divorce in certain cases on the decision of the court may be heard in camera.

24. The following procedure is to be followed when petitioning for dissolution of marriage.

(a) A petition for the dissolution of a marriage is to be submitted to the People's Court, giving reasons for the divorce as well as the full name, date of birth and address of the other party to the marriage; when filing the petition for divorce, the sum of 100 rubles is to be paid.

(b) The court summons the party against whom the petition has been filed, to acquaint him or her with the contents of the petition, to ascertain the motives for the divorce, as well as to establish witnesses to be summoned during the court proceedings.

(c) Announcement of the filing of a petition for divorce is to be published in the local newspaper at the expense of the party filing the petition.

25. The People's Court is obliged to establish the motives for the filing of a petition for the dissolution of a marriage, and to take steps to reconcile the parties, for which purpose both parties must be summoned, and in case of necessity witnesses as well.

In the event of failure by the People's Court to reconcile the parties, the petitioner has the right to file a petition for the dissolution of the marriage with the higher court.

To establish that a decision regarding the dissolution of a marriage may be passed by the Regional and city courts or the Supreme Court of the Union or Autonomous Republic.

26. The Regional, territorial and city courts or the Supreme Court of the Union or Autonomous Republic which decide that the marriage should be annulled, must:

(a) Settle the question of the custody of the children between the parents and determine which of the parents is to defray expenses for the maintenance of the children and to what extent.

(b) Establish a procedure for the division of property, whether in kind or in respective proportions between the parties.

(c) Restore to each of the divorced parties their original surnames if they so desire.

27. On the basis of the court decision, the civil registry office draws up the certificate of divorce, makes a corresponding entry in the passports of both parties and charges one or both parties, at the decision of the court, a sum ranging from 500 to 2,000 rubles.

28. To instruct the Supreme Soviets of the Union Republics to make, in accordance with the present Edict, the necessary changes in the legislation of the Union Republics.

29. To instruct the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR to draw up statutes covering the procedure for the payment of allowances to expectant mothers, mothers of large families and unmarried mothers in accordance with the present Edict.

30. To instruct the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR to adopt measures regulating the procedure of registration of marriages, births, etc., providing for the introduction of a solemn procedure for which suitable premises properly furnished are to be set aside, and for the issue to citizens of certificates duly drawn up.

31. In accordance with criminal legislation in force, the State prosecuting organs are to prosecute those guilty of performing illegal abortions, of insulting and humiliating the dignity of mothers and of refusing to pay alimony for the upkeep of children.

32. To consider as null and void:

(a) Articles 5, 8, 10, 27 and 28 of the Decision of the Central Executive Committee and Council of People's Commissars of the USSR of June 27, 1936 "On prohibiting abortions, increasing material aid to mothers, establishing State aid for mothers of large families, extending the network of maternity homes, nurseries and kindergartens, greater punishment for non-payment of alimony, and on certain amendments in legislation on divorce." (Code of Laws of the USSR, 1936, No. 34, Article 309.)

(b) The Decision of the Central Executive Committee and the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR of November 14, 1936 "On the procedure for the payment of allowances to mothers of large families." (Code of Laws of the USSR, 1936, No. 59, Article 448.)

(c) Article 14 of the Decision of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolshevik) and the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions of December 28, 1938, "On measures regulating labor discipline, improving the administration of State social insurance and combating abuses in this field." (Collection of Decisions of the Government of the USSR, 1929, No. 1, Article 1.)

(Signed) M. KALININ, Chairman of Presidium
of Supreme Soviet of USSR

A. GORKIN, Secretary of Presidium
of Supreme Soviet of USSR

Moscow, Kremlin, July 8, 1944

NEWS CHRONOLOGY

JANUARY 1—AUGUST 31, 1944¹

Newspapers are named primarily for convenient reference, although the same items may appear in other newspapers. The date given is the date on which the event occurred, while the number in parenthesis following the name of the newspaper indicates the date of the paper in which the report appeared. Unless otherwise indicated, the source is The New York Times. (N.Y.H.T.—New York Herald Tribune; D.W.—Daily Worker; E.B.—Information Bulletin of the Embassy of the U.S.S.R.; D.S.B.—Department of State Bulletin).

* Full text in English can be found in source indicated.

These texts are on file in the library of The American Russian Institute.

† For text, refer to Documents section, p. 69.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

ADMINISTRATION

JANUARY

28—The Supreme Soviet convenes to-night in the Kremlin, Moscow, for its second wartime session, and hears a proposal for a 1944 budget totaling 245,600,000,000 rubles of which 128,300,000,000 will be devoted to prosecution of the war. Finance Commissar Arseny Gregorovich Zverev presents the budget report. His recommendation, representing a 17.3 percent increase over the 1943 budget, compares with a budget of 174,300,000,000 rubles in 1940 and of 216,000,000,000 in 1941. (30)

FEBRUARY

2—The Supreme Soviet unanimously approves a proposal by Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav M. Molotov

for major changes in the Soviet Constitution under which each of the sixteen constituent republics may have its own army formations and separate diplomatic representation abroad. The Supreme Soviet elects Nikolai Shvernik first Vice President of the Presidium of the USSR, and then adjourns sine die. (2) See D.S.B., Vol. 10, No. 254 (May 6, 1944) or *Soviet Russia Today*, February, 1944 for text of Molotov proposal.

7—The Moscow radio announces the appointment at Gomel of P. K. Ponomarenko as chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the Byelo-Russian Republic, and of I. S. Bylinsky as deputy chairman. (8)

MARCH

4—The Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR registers approval of the proposal for the creation of separate Commissariats of Defense and Foreign Affairs for its own and the fifteen other Union Republics. The session

¹ The last issue of the *American Review on the Soviet Union*, Vol. 5, No. 1, dated February—March, 1942, included a news chronology for September 15—December 31, 1941, continuing a regular feature of the *Review* since it began publication in April, 1938. Chronologies for 1942 and 1943 are on file at the American Russian Institute.

was told that the changes would "contribute to an early victory over enemies and the reaching of a universal peace and security." (5)

10—The Russian home radio, according to U. S. Government monitors, reports that Victor Semenovitch Kozlov has been appointed Minister to Ethiopia.—*N.Y.H.T.* (11)

15—The seventh session of the Supreme Soviet of the Georgian SSR opens in Tbilisi (Tiflis). On the agenda are : (1) Approval of the 1944 State Budget; (2) Formation of the Union Republic's Commissariats of Defense and Foreign Affairs; (3) Election of members and assessors of the Supreme Court of the Georgian SSR. — *Inter-Continent News* (18)²

16—The eighth session of the Supreme Soviet of the Armenian SSR opens in Yerevan. The session is scheduled to consider the 1944 State Budget, the laws adopted since the seventh session, and the law on the formation of Commissariats of Defense and Foreign Affairs for the Armenian Republic. — *Inter-Continent News* (18)

30—K. Kiselev is appointed Commissar of Foreign Affairs for the Byelorussian SSR. — *Inter-Continent News* (30)

JUNE

24—TASS, in a broadcast dispatch from Moscow reported by U. S. monitors, announces that elections to the Supreme Council of the RSFSR have been postponed until June, 1945. (25)

JULY

8—The Supreme Soviet promulgates a new law on marriage, divorce, the

family and motherhood. The new law increases state subsidies to families with three or more children; establishes court procedure and increased costs for divorce applications; extends aid to mothers of children born out of registered unions but restricts the legal and social claims of unmarried mothers against fathers of their children; and revokes former penalties against those performing or provoking illegal abortions, leaving punishment to discretion of the courts, etc.—*N.Y.H.T.* (10)†

ECONOMIC LIFE

FEBRUARY

22—In London, Churchill tells the House of Commons: "Our production of aircraft, fighters and bombers, judged by every possible test, already far exceeds the Germans'. Russian production is about equal to ours, and American production alone is double or treble German production." (23)

MARCH

20—Moscow reports that the 12th plenum of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions completed its work on March 15. Following debate on reports of the secretaries of the trade union council, Vasili Kuznetsov and Klavdia Nikolaeva, the plenum discussed the report of M. Tarasov, Chairman of the County Committee of the Railway Workers Union, on increasing the public control of the trade union organizations over the work of dining rooms, stores and auxiliary farms. L. Solevov, head of the organizational department of the AUCCTU has been elected to the secretariat. Vasili Kuznetsov was elected Chairman of the AUC-

² Reports of the Inter-Continent News listed in this chronology are on file in the American Russian Institute library.

CTU, replacing Nikolai Shvernik, who has been named first deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.³—*Inter-Continent News* (20)

APRIL

- 15—Quantities of unrationed food are placed on public sale in Moscow at a number of attractive shops opened for the occasion. These so-called commercial stores offer a greater variety of foodstuffs than have been drawn on ration cards, at lower prices, throughout the war. (16)

MAY

- 4—The Soviet Government's third war loan, for 25,000,000,000 rubles, has been announced. Finance Commissar Arseny G. Zverev said the loan would be redeemed within twenty years, on terms similar to that for the 1943 loan. Private subscribers set aside a proportion of their earnings and pay as they go over a period of ten months. Redemption is in the form of a lottery, with the winners gaining considerable premiums and losers getting their money back at fixed intervals. Public corporations, farms and factories will invest in the interest-bearing section of the loan. (5)

- 6—A Soviet spokesman announces that the third Russian war loan of 25,000,000,000 rubles has been oversubscribed by almost 35 percent.—*Blue Network* (7)

JULY

- 2—From Novosibirsk it is reported that Marshal Stalin told Eric Johnston that the USSR planned to boost

steel production from the current and pre-war 22,000,000 ton capacity to an annual output of 60,000,000 tons—second only to that of the U. S. W. H. Lawrence, on first wartime trip of foreign correspondents to Urals-Siberian area, reports production statistics for metallurgical and munitions plants in Magnitogorsk, Sverdlovsk, Omsk, Novosibirsk, including factories evacuated from western Russia. (13)

RECONSTRUCTION

JANUARY

—A Decree of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of August 21, 1943, provides for "urgent measures for the economic rehabilitation of areas liberated from German occupation." It deals with agricultural reconstruction, the rebuilding of dwellings, the reconstruction of railway lines, railway stations, etc., and, finally, with measures in the field of education.—*International Labour Review* (January)

FEBRUARY

- 5—Vasili Kusakov, assistant chairman of the recently established Government Committee on Architecture, states that the paramount task of the committee now is restoration of war-destroyed communities. Teams of architects have been sent to Kiev, Kharkov, Smolensk, Rostov, Zaporozhye and other liberated cities on a threefold mission: to determine the extent and nature of Nazi destruction; to draw up general rehabilitation plans; and to decide which architectural measures are of primary importance.—*Moscow News* (5)

³ Shvernik was also elected recently to the chairmanship of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR.—*Allied Labor News* (Mar. 23)

- 5—The Council of People's Commissars of the USSR publishes a report on the economic rehabilitation of districts liberated from the German occupation (in accordance with the decree of August 21, 1943). The report, covering the period from August 21, 1943, to January 1, 1944, states that 630,830 head of livestock which had been evacuated and cared for by collective farmers of the Eastern Regions have been returned to the liberated regions, along with 250,613 head purchased by the Government and sold to the collective farmers. Another 663,000 head were purchased by collective farmers under advanced contracts. The Government assigned 96,324 tons of winter crop seed to collective and State farms of the liberated districts, where 575 machine and tractor stations, 969 machine and tractor repair workshops and nine repair factories have been restored, and 3,587 local agricultural officials and experts have returned from evacuation. A total of 326,461 war-ruined dwelling houses have been rebuilt. Nearly 2,000,000 persons who had been living in dugouts now have homes, and 25 factories have been built for the production of building materials. The sum of 16 billion rubles has been appropriated for economic rehabilitation of the liberated districts.—*E.B.* (10)⁴
- 12—Edgar Snow, discussing "How Fast Can Russia Build?" reports time estimates of foreign observers in Moscow range from 15 to 30 years; some Soviet citizens believe full recovery as far as actual pro-

duction is concerned can be accomplished in five years. The Commissariat of Labor Reserves has been training vast numbers of young people to do the job, and little outside engineering help will be needed.—*Saturday Evening Post* (12)

MARCH

- 6—Practice of *sheftsvo* (sponsorship) whereby sections of the USSR far behind the fighting fronts help the war-destroyed areas in their reconstruction tasks, hastens job of reconstruction.—*PM* (6)
- 22—Reporting to the Sixth Session of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR, Nikita Khrushchev, head of the Ukrainian government, reviews reconstruction and rehabilitation problems facing that Union Republic. — *Inter-Continent News* (22)

MAY

- 27—Vasili Ivanov, Commissar of Municipal and Housing Construction in the RSFSR, reports that that new commissariat is working out long-range plan for the reconstruction of war-destroyed communities, and must devote the bulk of its funds and energies to rehabilitation work for several years. (Architecture, prefabricated housing and use of local building materials briefly discussed).—*E.B.* (27)

JULY

- 20—A. Shavrov, Assistant Chairman, Council of People's Commissars, Byelorussian SSR reviews rehabilitation and reconstruction progress in that republic.—*E.B.* (20)

RELIGION

MAY

- 15—Metropolitan Sergius, Patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church for

⁴ Embassy Bulletin publishes translation of the *Izvestia* editorial accompanying report of February 5. For report itself, see *Izvestia* (Feb. 5, 1944); for analysis in English see *Foreign Commerce Weekly* (April 22, 1944).

All Russia, dies in Moscow of a brain hemorrhage. He was 78 years old.—*N.Y.H.T.* (16)

- 21—In Moscow, Alexei, 67-year-old Metropolitan of Leningrad and Novgorod, becomes acting Patriarch of All Russia with the announcement that the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church has “accepted and fulfilled the last will and testament of the late Holy Patriarch Sergius,” which directed that Metropolitan Alexei become “guardian of the throne.” (22)

AUGUST

- 11—Measures to facilitate the opening of new churches in Russia have been among principal concerns of the Soviet Council on Orthodox Affairs since its formation ten months ago, according to Georgi Grigorievich Karpov, head of the five-man Council, in an interview with Religious News Service in Moscow. (12)
- 17—Georgi Grigorievich Karpov, head of Soviet Council on Russian Orthodox Church Affairs, announces that Orthodox priests in Russia are now free to carry on proselytizing work both in churches and outside. (18)

SCIENCE

JANUARY

- 1—Commemorating the life and work of Academician Sergei Spasokukotsky, eminent Russian surgeon who died recently, the Soviet Government has established three annual prizes of 20,000 rubles each for the best works on surgery.—*D.W.* (1)

APRIL

- 19—In Philadelphia, an American and a Russian share the highest award bestowed by the Franklin Institute for scientific achievement. The

1944 Franklin medals go to Dr. William David Coolidge, vice president and research director of the General Electric Company, and Dr. Peter Kapitsa, director of the Institute for Physical Problems of the Academy of Sciences, USSR. (20)

AUGUST

- 15—Nikolai Morozov, 90, who is widely known for his investigations in astronomy and geophysics, has been awarded the Order of Lenin.—*E.B.* (15)

MISCELLANEOUS

JANUARY

- 5—Alexandrov, Mikhalev and L. Registan, who composed and wrote the text of the new national anthem of the USSR, were awarded 200,000 roubles; the other composers and poets who assisted them in writing the text and music received from 4,000 to 8,000 roubles apiece.—*Inter-Continent News* (5)
- 27—Moscow radio announces the Central Committee of the Communist Party has voted to retain the “Internationale” as the anthem of the All-Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks, and has approved the new Soviet national anthem. (28)

FEBRUARY

- 26—The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, granting a request of Leningrad workers, changes the name of Schlussemburg to Petrokrepost, of Peterhof to Petrodvorets, and the settlement of Duderhof to Nagornoye.—*Inter-Continent News*
- 28—Moscow is building a fourth subway line, it is revealed by the published details of a meeting of the Moscow City Committee of the Communist Party. (Location and

construction details on the new Metro section are not given.) (29)

MARCH

- 1—It is announced that the name of the capital city of the North Ossetian Autonomous Republic has been changed from Ordzhonikidze (previously Vladikavkaz) to Dzandzhikan.—*Pravda* (1).
- 15—The Soviet Government has decreed an increase of 7,550,000 hectares in the land to be cultivated in 1944, of which 5,440,000 hectares are to be devoted to additional wheat production. (A hectare is equal to 2.471 acres.) (16)
- 18—The Soviet Union commemorates the 100th anniversary of the birth of Nikolai Andreevich Rimsky-Korsakov with special services in Moscow and Leningrad, and by a

decree of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR which will make available much information about the man and his works.⁵ (19)

AUGUST

- 15—The British radio reports from Moscow that "the Russians are at present changing the gauge of their rolling stock to adapt it to that of the railroads in the West, in order to bring up vast quantities of material and reconstitute their offensive armies." (15)
- 15—The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet decrees new names for several cities recaptured in the Ukraine. Akkerman has been changed to Belgorod-Denstrovsky, Tarnopol to Ternopol, Cernauti to Chernovitsy and Czertkow to Chortkov. (16)

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

FEBRUARY

- 23—On the twenty-sixth anniversary of the Red Army, Premier Stalin announces that in one year the Russians have swept the Germans from nearly three-quarters of occupied Russia in a westward advance that in places has exceeded 1,000 miles . . . that in the three months of the current winter campaign the Russians have cleared the invaders from about 77,000 square miles and won back more than 13,000 populated places, including 82 towns and 320 railway stations . . . "The main forces of Germany are still operating on one front against the Soviet Union," he declared. "It is known from history that Germany has always won wars if she fought on one front and on the contrary lost them when she

was forced to fight on two fronts. In the present war, Germany, although fighting with her main forces on one front against the U.S.S.R., not only has been unable to win victory, but through the powerful blows of the Soviet Union has been brought to the edge of a catastrophe." (23)*

- 28—Three hundred thousand Germans have been killed, 3,000 enemy trains derailed and nearly 1,200 Nazi tanks and armored cars destroyed by Soviet partisan bands in the last two years, reports the magazine *Bolshevik*, organ of the Cen-

⁵ *Pravda*, March 18 publishes the decree, which among other things calls for establishment of a Rimsky-Korsakov Museum in the house in Tikhvin where he was born; erection of a monument in Leningrad; publication of an "academic anthology" and illustrated album devoted to his life and work; creation of eight scholarships for composition students; establishment of life pensions for two sons, a daughter and grand-daughter.

tral Committee of the Communist Party. Among German troops killed were 30 generals, approximately 6,300 officers and 1,500 pilots. In addition, the partisans blew up 3,200 railroads and highway bridges and destroyed 476 planes, 378 guns, 618 cars, 1,400 trucks and 895 ammunition dumps. (29)

MARCH

- 4—Two new decorations for distinction in naval action are named after two famous Russian admirals of the past, Fedor Fedorovitch Ushakov and Pavel Stepanovich Nakhimov. Both are associated with Russian naval history (5)
- 5—Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov has been named to the command of the 1st Ukrainian Army, replacing General Nikolai F. Vatutin, who is ill.—N.Y.H.T. (6)
- 20—The number of Germans put out of action—killed, badly wounded or captured—since the beginning of the war reaches a minimum of 4,500,000 to 5,000,000, of whom about 2,000,000 are dead, according to conservative estimates based on information coordinated from several German sources. (20)

APRIL

- 10—Red Army liberates Odessa. (11)
- 14—General Nikolai F. Vatutin, commander of the First Ukraine Army, dies in Kiev following an operation. (15)
- 25—Soviet war review broadcast from Moscow reports that the Red Army killed or captured more than 500,000 Axis troops between March 1 and April 15 in lower Russia alone, and intends to fight its way into Germany in close collaboration with the Allies. "The task today, as the Red Army sees it, is to drive the enemy completely from Soviet

soil; to pursue and batter his armed forces not only on territory of his vassals and states under his power, but on territory of Germany itself and to achieve, in close collaboration with the Allies, the defeat of the Fascist armies and the capitulation of Fascist Germany." From July 1943 to April 15, 1944, the Red Armies of the south recaptured more than 65,000 localities and liberated more than 310,000 square miles of territory, all but one-quarter of the total invaded.—N.Y.H.T. (26)

MAY

- 12—The Red Army liquidates the last Axis remnants trapped west of Sevastopol on Cape Khersones, ending the five-weeks-old Crimean campaign in which 111,587 Germans and Rumanians were killed or captured.—N.Y.H.T. (13)
- 28—The Germans have recently reorganized their command along large sections of the Russian front. Col. Gen. George Lindemann now commands the Nazi army group on the Baltic front. Field Marshal Gen. Ernst Busch is in charge in Byelorussia. South of the Pripiet Marches down to the Carpathians, Field Marshal Gen. Walther von Modl has replaced Field Marshal Gen. Fritz Erich von Mannstein. The latest replacement is Col. Gen. Friedrich Schoener, who has taken over from Field Marshal Gen. Paul Ludwig von Kleist, in command of an army group of two armies of perhaps 20 or 30 divisions, which face the Russians from the Black Sea through Jassy to the Carpathians. (29)

JUNE

- 2—American Flying Fortresses land for the first time at new American

air bases in Russia after bombing enemy targets in eastern Europe, and thus initiating a shuttle-bombing program of historic military significance. (3) Also N.Y.H.T. (3)

6—A large force of American heavy bombers wipes out Nazi air installations at Galati, Rumania, and returns to its Soviet bases without loss in the first round-trip operation across the Russian-German front. (7)

22—The Red Army has killed or captured 7,800,000 Germans in three years of fighting on the Eastern Front, and the Nazis are now faced "with complete rout," the Soviet Information Bureau announces on the third anniversary of the Russo-German war. The Russians have lost 5,300,000 men killed, captured or missing in the same period. In the last twelve months, during which the Russians drove the Germans back as much as 500 miles on the Ukrainian front, the Germans lost 1,400,000 men killed and captured and the Red Army lost 1,100,000. (22)

22—The Red Army touches off two more offensive campaigns to drive Finnish and German troops from Soviet soil. Both are in the north, in regions where the Nazis have made their hardest efforts to block the Murmansk railroad, over which American and British supplies have moved to Russian fighting fronts.—N.Y.H.T. (22)

JULY

13—Vilna is captured. Premier Stalin addresses an order of the day to General Ivan Davidovich Cherniakhovsky, young Ukrainian Jewish general, who in the last three weeks has received more orders of the

day from Stalin than any other general in Soviet history. Also mentioned is Colonel Vassily Iosifovich Stalin, a younger son of Premier Stalin; for the second time in a week planes under his command are praised.—N.Y.H.T. (14)

18—The American Broadcasting Station in Europe quotes Gen. Cherniakhovsky: "Now that we are at the Niemen River, we will drive on to East Prussia. Give the Germans no rest. Keep moving." ABSIE also reported that *Pravda* revealed that the Soviet Air Force was carrying out bombing missions over East Prussia from recaptured airfields. (18)

24—Summarizing action on four fronts from June 23 to July 23, a special Soviet war communique reports that enemy losses for that period included more than 381,000 men and officers killed, and 158,480 captured, including 22 German generals; with destruction or capture by the Red Army of 631 aircraft, 2,635 tanks and self-propelled guns, 8,602 guns, 5,695 mortars, 23,071 machine guns, and 57,152 trucks.—N.Y.H.T. (25)

26—The Red Army drives to the Vistula River, last important natural barrier between it and Germany, and captures Deblin. Capture of Narva, Estonian fortress city earlier in the day, signals the beginning of offensive operations against the German Baltic States garrisons. (27)

28—Soviet troops capture Brest-Litovsk, main bastion on the central Polish line protecting Warsaw. (29)

AUGUST

3—Red Army troops shatter the Vistula River line in Poland. (4)

- 22—The Soviet High Command announces that Russian troops have seized more than 50 towns and settlements along the vital railroad between Warsaw and the Bug River. By recapture of Tukums, the Germans reestablish communications with an estimated 200,000 troops in Latvia and Estonia. (22)
- 22—Soviet troops capture Jassy, former capital of Moldavia, and plunge to within 73 miles of Galati. (23)
- 26—Russian troops reconquer Bessarabia, reaching the Danube waterway from the Prut River down to the Black Sea. Other Soviet forces strike westward into the Carpathian Mountains in pursuit of an enemy fleeing toward Hungary. At least 61,000 prisoners were taken within twenty-four hours, including five Rumanian divisions. Soviet marines land at Valcov, Black Sea port at the mouth of the Danube. (27)
- 27—Russian tanks and motorized infantry pour into the rich Ploesti oil region after shattering the Galati Gap defenses between the Danube and the Carpathians. Rumanian troops going over to the Allied banner strike the Germans at Ploesti, according to a Bucharest communique, and block the mountain passes leading through the Carpathians to Hungary via Transylvania. (28)
- 29—Russian land and naval forces, combining a 65-mile advance overland and an 82-mile amphibious leap down the Black Sea coast, capture the Rumanian port of Constanta. Other troops drive to the fringes of the Ploesti oil fields and seize control of the Ploesti-Constanta pipeline. (30)
- 31—Soviet troops enter Bucharest, the first former enemy capital taken by

the Red Army. (The following night, members of the Rumanian Armistice Commission meet in the Kremlin with Molotov to work out the final provisions of Rumania's exit from Hitler's camp.) (Sept. 1)

SECOND FRONT

FEBRUARY

- 22—Prime Minister Churchill tells Parliament: "On the broad grounds of strategy, Hitler's decision to send into the south of Italy as many as eighteen divisions, involving, with their maintenance troops, probably something like a half million Germans, and his decision there in Italy to make a large secondary front is not unwelcome to the Allies. We must fight the Germans somewhere in this war unless we are to stand still and watch the Russians." (23)
- 29—This message from Premier Stalin to President Roosevelt was made public today: "I ask you to accept my sincere thanks for your friendly congratulations on the occasion of the 26th anniversary of the Red Army and on the successes of the armed forces of the Soviet Union in the struggle against the Hitlerite invaders. I am strongly convinced that the time is near when the armed forces of the Soviet Union, together with the armies of the United States and Great Britain, on the basis of the agreements reached at Moscow and Teheran, will lead to the final defeat of our common enemy, Hitlerite Germany." (March 1)

MARCH

- 9—The Red Army newspaper *Red Star* pays high tribute to the "powerful and systematic blows" inflicted upon German industrial cen-

ters and vital communications, and the resultant lowering of German civilian and military morale, by British and American bombers, but disagrees with the theory that air power alone can win the war. (10)

MAY

- 11—Moscow radio reports this statement by Foreign Commissar Molotov, "The time has now come when the armed forces of the Allies are preparing for resolute joint action against our common enemy—Hitlerite Germany—and the enemy

will soon feel the power of our joint blows." (12)

JUNE

- 6—Statement by General Eisenhower, as broadcast by Allied radios: "People of western Europe! A landing was made this morning on the coast of France by troops of the Allied Expeditionary Force. This landing is part of the concerted United Nations plan for the liberation of Europe, made in conjunction with our great Russian allies." (6)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

UNITED STATES

JANUARY

- 5—David Zaslavsky, commenting in *Pravda* on Wendell Wilkie's article in the *New York Times* of January 2nd on the subject, "Don't Stir Distrust of Russia," criticizes Wendell Wilkie for "reproducing" in an article supposedly written to strengthen American-Soviet relations "suspicious cries of those reactionary groups which are afraid of a victorious movement forward of the Red Army and the Allied armies." (6)
- 6—President Roosevelt credits lend-lease equipment from the United States with playing a major role in the Red Army offensive which is driving the Germans out of Russia. (7)
- 10—*Pravda* publishes virtually the full text of President Roosevelt's lend-lease report to Congress.—*N.Y. H.T.* (11)
- 11—President Roosevelt in his annual message to Congress denies that "secret treaties or political or finan-

cial commitments" were made by himself or Mr. Hull at the Moscow, Cairo or Teheran Conferences.—*D.S.B.* (15)*

- 14—Army guide publication takes the view that the Allied cause "would be weaker" now if Russia had not attacked Finland in 1939 and overrun the Baltic States.—*N.Y.H.T.* (15)
- 15—Anything other than complete co-operation with Soviet Russia after the war would be "tragic blundering" on the part of the United States, according to Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., Under-Secretary of State, in a broadcast. (16)
- 17—Secretary of State Cordell Hull announces that the United States has offered its good offices to the Soviet Government, if acceptable, toward facilitating discussions between Moscow and the Polish Government in Exile in London looking toward a resumption of their diplomatic relations. (18)
- 18—Foreign Economic Administration reports the United States shipped

\$338,000,000 worth of goods to Soviet Russia in November—the largest amount sent in the history of the lend-lease program. (19)

25—Major General Donald H. Connolly, chief of the United States Persian Gulf Command, winds up a forty-day inspection of Soviet battlefronts and supply lines. General Connolly states that the Russian command showed him everything he asked to see. The Red Army has set records in keeping its communications and supply up to the advancing front, he says. (26)

26—The Soviet Government rejects, in the present circumstances, the tender of good offices by the United States looking to a resumption of relations between that Government and the Polish Government in Exile in London, in view of the Polish boundary dispute. (27)

FEBRUARY

9—Secretary of State Cordell Hull confirms Stockholm reports that the United States has renewed a warning to Finland that if she continues in the war, she must be prepared to take the consequences. (9)

10—Dmitri Shostakovich as conductor, and Sergei Prokofieff as piano soloist, broadcast to this country for the first time in a performance of Shostakovich's Piano Concerto. (10)

14—In New York, Russian War Relief announces that relief supplies worth \$15,598,600 were shipped to the Soviet Union in 1943, with an additional \$1,182,733 worth in transit at the year's end. Contributions in 1943 were more than twice those in the previous year.—D.W. (16)

18—Moscow radio announces that the Soviet Government has bestowed the Order of Suvorov, first class, on

General Dwight D. Eisenhower for his "outstanding success" in the North African and Italian campaigns. Decorations to other high United States Army and Navy officers are also announced. (19)⁶

23—President Roosevelt, in a Red Army Day message to Premier Joseph Stalin, declares the Russian forces' "magnificent achievements . . . together with the collaboration and cooperation which was agreed upon at Moscow and Teheran, assure our final victory over the Nazi aggressors." (24)

27—Leo T. Crowley, Foreign Economic Administrator, announces that in the 27 months from October 1941 to January 1, 1944, the United States shipped to Soviet Russia as lend-lease aid a total of 8,400,000 tons of munitions, food and other war supplies valued at \$4,243,804,000. (27)

29—The Soviet press and radio give the Russian people details of Foreign Economic Administrator Leo T. Crowley's lend-lease announcement of Feb. 27.—N.Y.H.T. (March 1)

29—Premier Stalin tells President Roosevelt that he is strongly convinced the armed forces of the Soviet Union, the United States and Great Britain ". . . on the basis of the agreements reached at Moscow and Teheran" will soon achieve "the final defeat of our common enemy, Hitlerite Germany."—N.Y. H.T. (March 1)

MARCH

3—President Roosevelt discloses that the Italian Fleet will be distributed

⁶ Presentation of the awards to 52 representatives of the U. S. Army, Navy and Merchant Marine took place in Washington April 11, 1944. For list of those awarded the Soviet decorations, received on behalf of the U. S. Government by Secretary Hull, and for the statement of Ambassador Andrei A. Gromyko on the occasion, see D.S.B. April 15, 1944 (Vol. X; No. 251, pp. 347-349).

equally among the United States, Great Britain and Russia for purposes of prosecuting the war. The matter has not been finally decided, but Russia will get one-third of the Italian fleet or the equivalent in ships from the United States or British navies. (4)

11—The USSR already has received miscellaneous naval equipment and a limited number of naval craft (none in major combat categories) from the United States and is slated to get more. It is likely, however, that these and future ship transfers may be credited to Soviet Russia under the recently disclosed plan to turn over to the Red Navy one-third of the surrendered Italian fleet or its equivalent. The latter category appears more likely inasmuch as the types of warships available in the Italian Navy would be of little value to the Russians at this time because of operational limitations.—*N.Y.H.T.* (12)

14—Secretary of State Hull again urges Finland to get out of the war. (15)

16—President Roosevelt issues a statement expressing hope that Finland would withdraw from her "hateful partnership" with Germany. (17)

24—Secretary of State Hull reviews the broad bases of foreign policy for 24 first-term Republican members of the House of Representatives. He is quoted as saying that Soviet recognition of the Badoglio regime in Italy resulted from Russian pique over failure of Great Britain and the United States to keep Russia informed about what they were doing; that this was probably an unfortunate omission on the part of the English-speaking allies; that American attitude toward the Baltic States is still based on his declaration of 1939 that this country

would not recognize aggression. He is further quoted as saying that the Polish-Russian border dispute was holding up many important international negotiations and that the border problem was "microscopic" and should be left for post-war settlement.—*N.Y.H.T.* (24)

24—Russian newspapers emphasize the award of the Order of Suvorov, First Degree, to Gen. George C. Marshall, U. S. Chief of Staff, for "outstanding military activity and merits in the task of leading American military forces in the battle against the common enemy of the Soviet Union and the United States — Hitlerite Germany." (26)

APRIL

4—Secretary of State Hull accepts the statement of Foreign Commissar V. M. Molotov concerning Russia's objectives in Rumania as meaning that the Russian Army's main business is to defeat the enemy in the field. (4)

12—U. S. Under-Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr. confers with Fedor T. Gusev, Soviet Ambassador to Britain — probably to discuss the position of the tottering Axis satellites—and then establishes contact with diplomatic representatives of six exiled governments. (13)

29—Plans of the Library of Congress to establish a Slavic Center⁷ to encourage cultural exchange between the United States and Russia are announced by Archibald MacLeish. (30)

30—The OPA brings softwood lumber imported from Russia under the provisions of its northeastern softwood lumber price regulation, in order to provide "more uniform and

⁷ An article by Mr. MacLeish in this issue gives further information on the project.

equitable" prices for this variety of lumber. Specifically, the ruling which goes into effect May 5 provides that when sales of Russian lumber are made in the United States, the price shall be subject to OPA approval. Russia is helping to ease the United States paper shortage by shipping to this country under reverse lend-lease all pulpwood possible, Chairman Lyle H. Boren of the House newsprint investigating committee said yesterday. (May 1)

MAY

- 2—The United States Midnight Sun Airlines, Inc. of Whitehouse, N. J., headed by Thor Solberg, asks the Civil Aeronautics Board for permission to fly passengers, mail and freight between New York and Moscow. Intermediate stops would include Montreal; Stromsfjord, Greenland; Reykjavik, Iceland; Oslo, Norway; Stockholm, Helsinki and Leningrad. (3)
- 2—War Department discloses that, for the last two years, lend-lease planes from the United States have been flown to the USSR by Red Army pilots over a northern air route, presumably via Alaska. (3)
- 6—W. Averell Harriman, Ambassador to the Soviet Union, has returned here on a short visit for "a current exchange of information," the Department of State announces. (7)
- 6—Summing up his 12-day visit to the Soviet Union as he departed from Moscow for the United States, Rev. Stanislaus Orlemanski, Polish-American priest of Springfield, Mass., states that he found Premier Joseph Stalin friendly toward the Roman Catholic Church and predicted that Poland would retain her religion after her liberation. (7)*

- 12—Declarations by Premier Joseph Stalin that cooperation with Pope Pius XII is possible "in the matter of struggle against coercion and persecution of the Catholic Church," and that he (Stalin) is "an advocate of freedom of conscience and worship" are made public in Chicago by Rev. Stanislaus Orlemanski of Springfield, Mass. (13)*

JUNE

- 2—President William Green of the AFL, addressing a convention of the ILGWU in Boston, states: "We, in the AFL have great admiration for the way Soviet Russia has carried on the war against Hitler and for the courage and mighty exploits of the Russian people and the Russian armies. . . . We willingly and gratefully acknowledge our debt to Soviet Russia in helping to crush the Nazis. Our own union members have given their sweat and their skill and their genius to the production of weapons of war which were sent in tremendous quantities to Russia, and without which Stalin himself has conceded victory could not have been won. But while we acknowledge our indebtedness to Soviet Russia, we do not consider it right or a just contribution to world peace that all Europe be Sovietized when the war ends. We still believe that each nation of Europe should be accorded the right to work out its own peaceful and democratic destiny without being subjected to the status of a puppet state. . . ." (3)
- 2—Vice President Henry A. Wallace, enroute to China, tells a Russian audience in Siberia that full collaboration among the United States and the Soviet Union and their allies is necessary to insure world

peace, according to the Moscow radio. (3) (For English translation of Wallace text, delivered in Russian, see E.B. June 6.)

- 3—Eric Johnston, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, tells 100 Soviet trade leaders that a gulf separates the economies of the United States and Russia, but that bridges of practical cooperation can be thrown across that gulf. (5)
- 7—Senator David I. Walsh, chairman of the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs, confirms to members of his committee the release to Russia of a light cruiser of the U. S. Navy. This has been a subject of Congressional discussion and comment. (8)
- 13—Vice President Wallace, speaking in Russian, tells an overflow audience in Novosibirsk that "our two great peoples must work together in peace as well as in war for the reconstruction of devastated areas." (14)
- 16—The Minister of Finland and three counselors of his legation receive their passports from the State Department and are directed to leave the country at the earliest possible moment because of activities "inimical to the interests of the United States." (16)
- 19—Eric Johnston, U. S. Chamber of Commerce President, announces that Anastas Mikoyan, Foreign Trade Commissar, told him that the Soviet Union wished to purchase "many billions of dollars" worth of goods from the United States. (20)
- 20—Vice President Wallace, arriving in Chungking today to confer with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, predicts that the common boundary between Russia and China would

in the future be like the border between the United States and Canada. (21)

- 22—The Soviet Information Bureau in London declares that "a considerable contribution to the success of the Red Army was made by our Allies, the United States of America and Great Britain, who supplied us with very valuable strategic raw materials and arms and subjected Germany's military objectives to systematic bombing and thereby undermined German's military might."—*N.Y.H.T.* (22)
- 26—Eric Johnston talks with Stalin for two and one-half hours, and emerges with the declaration that the conversation was "very successful."—*N.Y.H.T.* (28)

JULY

- 2—As the result of negotiations undertaken at the request of the United States Government, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company at Wilmington, Del., is making its neoprene synthetic rubber process available to the USSR. (3)
- 25—May lend-lease shipments to Russia totaled \$316,000,000; to Great Britain \$559,000,000; to the Mediterranean theatre, \$110,000,000; to China, India, Australia and New Zealand, \$130,000,000; to all other areas, \$44,000,000 (including \$4,000,000 to Latin America). (26)
- 25—American fighter planes from their Russian bases⁸ shoot down twenty-nine enemy planes, destroy nine on the ground and strafe an airdrome, a railway and motor traffic, in support of Soviet offensive operations against the Germans in the Lwow area. This is reportedly the first

⁸ Initial landing of American planes at these bases took place June 2, 1944. (See under Military Developments.)

time in this war that one of the Allies has participated directly in a Russian offensive. (27)

AUGUST

- 9—Major General John R. Deane, chief of the United States Military Mission to Moscow, home on visit after nine months in Russia, announces that 300,000 American trucks are supplying the Red Army with half of its over-the-road transportation drive toward Germany. American tanks are used by the Russians as spearheads in their armored attack. Deane asserts that the primary reasons for Russia's military success are that the entire population engages in the war effort and that Soviet military leadership is highly competent. — *N.Y. H.T.* (10)
- 15—The American Red Cross announces that it is equipping ten hospitals of 500 beds each for the civilian population of freed areas of the Soviet Union where hospital shortages exist. (16)
- 23—President Roosevelt sends Congress a quarterly report on lend-lease operations and asks that such aid be continued until the unconditional surrender of both Germany and Japan. The report states that of the \$5,900,000,000 total lend-lease exports to Russia through June 30, more than \$1,650,000,000 had been shipped in the first six months of this year with the result that transmittals to Russia between July 1, 1943, and June 30, 1944 "exceeded the schedules called for under the Third Protocol by 30 per cent." Under the heading "Reverse Lend-Lease" the report lists the numbers of Russians, British and Chinese killed so far in the war. (23)

OTHER ALLIES

JANUARY

- 3—Telephone service between London and Moscow, severed since 1939, will be restored February 1. — *N.Y.H.T.* (4)
- 4—The First Independent Czechoslovak Division, already holding the Order of Suvorov, is recommended for the Order of Bogdan Khmelnit-sky, a new Order named after a famous Ukrainian patriot. — *D.W.* (5)
- 5—The Polish Government announces that it has instructed its underground forces not to impede the progress of the Russian troops across Poland but to cooperate with them only if Soviet-Polish diplomatic relations are resumed. (6)*
- 6—The Union of Polish Patriots calls on the Polish underground to rise against the Germans and announces a five-point political program involving the cession to the USSR of the disputed eastern Polish territory, to be offset by extension of Poland's frontier westward at Germany's expense. Other points in the program are: establishment of a parliamentary democratic regime; wiping out of all "reactionary" elements and distribution of land to peasants; unification of all Poles, regardless of political creed, with the exclusion of "reactionary emigre elements abroad." (7)
- 8—The *London Times* urges the Polish Government-in-Exile to acknowledge the Soviet right to western Byelorussia and the western Ukraine in the interests of a lasting Russian-Polish alliance. The *Times* states that "British opinion has never been happy about the equity of the old border line, which diverged very widely from carefully

- considered recommendations put forward by a competent mission of the Peace Conference of 1919." (8)
- 8—A Yugoslav volunteer unit, composed of officers and men who escaped from enemy prison camps and of persons of Yugoslav origin residing in Russia, has been formed in Moscow. (9)
- 9—Moscow newspapers give prominence to news that the Second Polish Division recently went to the front to fight alongside the Red Army. (10)
- 11—The Soviet Union offers Poland a program for solution of differences between the two countries which includes a settlement of the border controversy and the adhesion of Poland to the Soviet-Czechoslovak Treaty of Mutual Assistance, Moscow radio announces. — *D.W.* (11)*
- 14—The European Advisory Commission formed at the Moscow conference to study European questions arising from the war, is meeting formally for the first time (in London). U. S. Ambassador John G. Winant is presiding; other members are Fedor Gusev, Russian Ambassador to London, and William Strang, representing Great Britain. (15)
- 14—The Polish Government-in-Exile offers to discuss "all outstanding questions" with Soviet Russia provided the United States and Britain act as intermediaries and sit in on the discussions. British Government comments on Polish declaration. (15)*
- 17—The Russian Government rejects the Polish Government's offer to enter into negotiations on the Russian-Polish boundary dispute and refuses to consider renewing diplomatic relations with Premier Stanislaw Mikolajczyk's Cabinet. (17)*
- 17—*Pravda* publishes a rumor that "two leading British personalities" had been discussing with Joachim von Ribbentrop, German Foreign Minister, a separate peace with Germany. (18)
- 18—The British Foreign Office issues this statement: "The Foreign Office authorizes issue of a complete denial of the story reported from Cairo and published in *Pravda* to the effect that a secret meeting took place between Ribbentrop and leading British figures. There is no truth whatever in this story." (18)
- 18—Moscow fully acknowledges Britain's denial of peace talks with Germany, but cites a story in a British Sunday newspaper as a basis for rumors that the Nazis actually were seeking peace. (19)

FEBRUARY

- 1—*Pravda* describes the Katyn Forest funeral—the reburial yesterday of 11,000 Polish officers and soldiers, and reports officers of Polish units denounced as lies the German charges that the Soviet Union murdered the men. (2)
- 4—Dr. Eduard Benes, President of the Czechoslovak Government in Exile, says in addressing the State Council for the first time in 14 months: "Indeed, Munich and all the European disasters that followed could have come about only because of the Western Europe's hostility to the Soviet . . . (the close link with Moscow) is the guarantee of our frontier, the guarantee that Munich will never happen again; it is a notable guarantee of our independence and of our republic such as has never previously been vouchsafed us." (5)

- 4—TASS reports that the Ethiopian Minister to Moscow, Ato Lawrence Taezas, has presented his credentials to President Mikhail Kalinin. (6)
- 10—A Soviet military mission, consisting of twenty-two officers and headed by Lieut. Gen. Korneev, has arrived in Yugoslavia and is accredited to Marshal Tito's Yugoslav National Army of Liberation. (March 8—Delayed)
- 10—Russia has cooperated with Britain in the relief of prisoners in Japanese hands to the extent of clearing correspondence and forwarding relief supplies through Soviet territory, Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden informs Parliament. (11)
- 19—*War and the Working Class* expresses the opinion that post-war trade between the Soviet Union and the United States, Britain and Canada should be profitable for all concerned, but makes it clear that the Soviet Union must have favorable long-term credits and receive the opportunity to export as well as import goods. (20)
- 20—Nikolai I. Feonov, Soviet trade expert, is appointed deputy general of UNRRA in charge of supplies for the European Regional Office of UNRRA in London. (21)
- 20—The Soviet government announces it has awarded Orders of Suvorov to General Sir Harold R. L. G. Alexander, Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Armies in Italy; Vice Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, Chief of Staff of the Mediterranean Fleet; Admiral Sir John Cronyn Tovey, Commander-in-Chief of the Home Fleet, and Air Marshal A. T. Harris, assistant chief of the British Air Staff.—D.W. (21)
- 22—Prime Minister Churchill tells Parliament, that "none of the ground made good at Moscow and Teheran has been lost" and that the three great Allies "are resolved equally to pursue the war at whatever cost to a victorious conclusion, and they believe that a wide field of friendly cooperation lies before them after the destruction of Hitlerite tyranny. It is upon such prolonged, intimate and honorable association that the future of the world depends. . . ." (23)
- 23—The United States, British and Soviet Governments simultaneously declare that they will not buy outside their own territories any gold that may have been looted and sold by Axis nations or gold that a country may have been enabled to release as a result of acquisition of Axis gold. (24)

MARCH

- 6—It is authoritatively announced in Washington that plans are well advanced looking to an exploratory conference on international post-war civil aviation among the United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, China and Canada. (7)
- 13—Marshal Pietro Badoglio's government announces that the Soviet Union has agreed to establish "direct relations between the two countries" and exchange "without delay representatives enjoying the usual diplomatic status."—D.W. (14)
- 30—*Izvestia* criticizes joint Anglo-American political decisions affecting Italy, including retention of the Badoglio government in its present form until Rome is recaptured, and charges that the Soviet Government's views were not sought and its complaints were not heeded to the detriment of the most effective Allied collaboration for a speedy defeat of Adolf Hitler. (31)

APRIL

- 4—It is reported from Naples that the Russian and Italian governments have formally approved each other's choice of representatives in their respective capitals. Pietro Quaroni, an Italian career diplomat and lately Minister to Afghanistan, will represent Marshal Badoglio's Government in Moscow. The Russian representative in Naples will be a Mr. Kostilev, an assistant of the Russian representative on the Allied Mediterranean Advisory Council.—*N.Y.H.T.* (5)
- 13—A military mission representing Marshal Tito, headed by Lieut. Gen. Volimir Terzich, arrives in Moscow, in conjunction with a similar Soviet mission that has already reached Marshal Tito's headquarters, representing the normal development of the Russian decision to follow the Allies' example of establishing contact with Marshal Tito's liberation army. (14)
- 13—Moscow radio announces that the Soviet Union and New Zealand have agreed to establish diplomatic relations and exchange Ministers. Notes to that effect are exchanged in London between Fedor Gusev, Soviet Ambassador to Great Britain and W. J. Jordan, the New Zealand High Commissioner. (14)
- 14—It is reported in London that Russia has agreed with the United States and Great Britain on the principle of post-war military government for Germany and those of her satellites that fight to the end. (15)
- 16—The Soviet Government, in an "exchange of views" with the United States and Great Britain, suggests the immediate formation of an Italian Government representing all democratic elements of the country, Andrei J. Vishinsky, Assistant Commissar of Foreign Affairs, announces. (17)
- 21—The long-pending proposal for a multi-billion-dollar international fund to help stabilize national currencies in the world market emerges from the technical drafting stage with publication in the principal United and Associated Nations of a "joint statement by experts" outlining the broad agreements of treasury technicians of thirty-four nations on an \$8,000,000,000 gold-based fund plan, which the Soviet Government has approved.—*N.Y.H.T.* (22)
- 25—Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor and chairman of the U. S. delegation to the International Labor Organization conference in Philadelphia, rebukes the official Soviet newspaper *Izvestia* for an editorial attack on the ILO as a "bankrupt" association of nations that should be divorced completely from the League of Nations. (26)
- 28—Declaring that the International Labor Organization could not function indefinitely without the affiliation of the Soviet Union, Walter Nash, president of the Conference, delivers a strong plea for Russia to come back into the ILO. Mr. Nash indicates, however, that he has little hope that Russia would resume its role as a member of the ILO until the world organization of the United Nations has been established with the ILO as an affiliate. This was one of the conditions for Russia's return, as published earlier in the week by *Izvestia*. Mr. Nash said that as opposed to the League of Nations, which did not make a test of the character of the government of the member nations, the

United Nations' postwar organization should be composed only of those democratic countries which fought for freedom. (29)

MAY

- 1—Declaring that American business has received enough contracts for rebuilding Russia's industry to "keep the whole United States machinery keyed up after the war," Ellis Smith, Labor Member of Parliament, calls upon the Churchill Government to explain "why Britain was left behind." He said Americans have signed contracts for \$2,500,000,000 to supply the Soviet with machines, tools and commodities. (2)
- 2—Dr. Jan Masaryk, Czechoslovak Foreign Minister, urges establishment of a European federation of nations and, while arguing that the cultural, religious and social life of small nations must be maintained, says that economically they must unite with one of the great powers in Europe or be crushed. Czechoslovakia, being close to Russia geographically, Masaryk said, will look to the Soviet Union for economic leadership and support. He says he thinks it possible for a capitalist and a communist nation to collaborate, and he contends that capitalism is changing and that the old conception of it must be revised.—*N.Y.H.T.* (3)
- 2—The British Government announces that it has approved a Soviet-Czechoslovak agreement for the administration of liberated Czechoslovakian territory, and discloses that Britain and the United States have drafted pacts similar in principle with the exiled Governments of Norway, Belgium and the Netherlands. (3)
- 4—Uruguay's newly appointed Ambassador to Russia, Dr. Emilio Frugoni, has arrived in Moscow, the Moscow radio announces. (5)
- 7—The Soviet publication, *War and the Working Class*, asserts that the Atlantic Charter and the Moscow Declaration of Foreign Ministers are not sufficiently precise instruments for settling the complicated problems of world war and peace in 1944. (8)
- 7—Hailing the Allies' agreement with Spain as a political as well as economic defeat for Hitler, *Pravda* asserts that "at the present stage of the war, which is approaching a climax, it is essential to remove all the obstacles on the road to victory and capable to any extent of postponing the enemy's defeat." (8)
- 7—In a Tunis speech marking that city's liberation a year ago by the British, French and Americans, General de Gaulle said, "Toward the West the French want to be a center of direct and practical cooperation, while they want to be permanent allies in relation to the East—that is to say, first in relation to dear and powerful Russia." (8)
- 8—An agreement placing Czechoslovak territory under the supreme authority of the Soviet (Allied) military commander as it is liberated by Russian armies, with a Czechoslovak administration to take over when the area becomes no longer a fighting zone, is signed in London. (9) (For text of agreement, see *United Nations Review*, July 15, 1944.)
- 9—An agreement establishing diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Costa Rica has been signed in Mexico City by Constantine A. Oumansky

and Carlos Jinesta Munoz, Costa Rican Ambassador. (Costa Rica is the sixth country of the Western Hemisphere, including the United States, that has recognized the Soviet Union. The others are Mexico, Cuba, Colombia, Uruguay, and Canada.) (10)

10—Prime Minister Churchill announces in the House of Commons that Britain sent Russia 5,031 tanks, including 1,223 from Canada, and 6,778 airplanes in the two and a half years from October 1, 1941 to March 31, 1944. Of the airplanes sent, 2,672 fighter planes went from the United States on lend-lease, as part of the British Commitment, in exchange for British planes which were given to the AAF in this country. Churchill reports that Britain also sent Russia more than \$320,000,000 worth of raw materials, foodstuffs, machinery, industrial plant and medical supplies and comforts. In connection with Churchill's announcement, the British Admiralty issues a communique disclosing that the United Nations have delivered nearly 1,250,000 tons of war equipment and material to Russia by the Arctic route in the last six months. The convoys were guarded by British and Allied warships under the general direction of Admiral Sir Bruce A. Fraser, commander in chief of the British Home Fleet. "Despite all that the enemy could do by sea and air to prevent our supplies reaching our ally, more than 98 per cent of the supply ships delivered their cargoes safely during the last six months. Losses of freight from enemy action and other causes were, in fact, less than sixteen tons in every 1,000 delivered, while, on the other hand, damage has been in-

flicted on the enemy forces."—*N.Y.H.T.* (11)

13—The Soviet Government announces that prisoners of French nationality captured while serving with the Germans on the Russian front would be sent to North Africa to join the army of the French Committee of National Liberation. (13)

16—Agreements are signed between Britain and the United States on the one hand and the exiled Governments of Norway, the Netherlands and Belgium on the other, governing control of civil affairs in those countries during the period of liberation. The texts were identical to one another and to that signed today by Norway and the Soviet Union. Russia was "consulted" before signatures were affixed on the other agreements. (17)

21—Professor Oscar Lange of Chicago announces that he received personal assurances from Premier Stalin that "Poland is going to play a very important role in Europe." The Soviet leader also told the Polish-American visitor, "It is in the interests of the Soviet Union that Poland be strong." (22)

24—The National Council of Poland has sent representatives to Moscow from German-occupied Polish territory, the Moscow radio announces, raising the possibility that the Soviet Union might recognize the Council as the legal government of Poland. (24)

25—Denying that Britain had agreed at Moscow, Teheran or anywhere else to give Russia an exclusive sphere of influence in Eastern Europe or had made any secret agreements with anybody, Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden declares that he is basing his hopes for a peaceful

world after the war on the armed might of this country, the United States and Russia in continued collaboration. (26)

25—Discussions with China and Russia on post-war aviation are being undertaken through separate conversations in Washington. The talks follow those recently held with the British through the London mission of Adolf A. Berle, Jr., Assistant Secretary of State, and are to lay the groundwork for a general United Nations conference on the subject in a few months.

27—Norway will follow a policy of friendship and collaboration with Russia after the war and will resist efforts of any power to make her a buffer against the Soviet Union, a member of the Norwegian Government-in-Exile says in London. (27)

30—The United States Government will place before the major powers in the United Nations for discussion a tentative form of organization as well as a suggested program for international post-war security, one that will not take from this country its integrity, President Roosevelt announces. His revelation of the existence of this form—in first draft—came a few hours after Secretary of State Cordell Hull had invited the British, Soviet and Chinese Governments, through their Ambassadors, to open conversations on the project. (31)

At his press conference Secretary of State Hull was asked whether it could be said that he had extended a preliminary informal invitation. He replied that at Moscow Mr. Molotov offered, and it was adopted, a resolution providing that our governments should meet in Washington for the purpose of collaborating and conferring on the

development of a concrete plan. This is carrying forward the provisions of that resolution. (Press Conference Transcript.)

JUNE

6—Prime Minister Churchill receives this congratulatory message from Premier Stalin on the Allied liberation of Rome: "I congratulate you on the great victory of the Allied Anglo-American forces in the taking of Rome. This news has been greeted in the Soviet Union with great satisfaction." (7)

7—President Roosevelt confers with Prime Minister Stanislaw Mikolajczyk of Poland and is his host at a White House dinner. (8)

8—Premier Stalin envisions a large, strong, sovereign Poland after the war, states Dr. Oscar Lange, at a Chicago press conference. The Polish-American Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago interviewed Stalin on May 17. (9)

11—President Mikhail Kalinin of the Soviet Union, in a message to King George VI, states that the "landings of Allied forces which have begun on the territory of northern France give assurance that the combined blows of the Allies against Hitlerite Germany will be crowned with complete and final victory over our common enemy." (12)

13—Premier Stalin, commenting on the Allied landing in France, states in *Pravda*, "The history of wars does not know any such undertaking so broad in conception and so grandiose in its scale and so masterly in execution." (14)*

18—It is announced that an agreement has been reached between the Czechoslovak and Soviet Governments on printing Czechoslovak currency in Russia for use by

Czechoslovak authorities and the Red Army when it reaches Czechoslovak territory. (19)

- 30—In an agreement with Soviet Russia, the Czechoslovak Government appoints Frantisek Nemec, Minister of Reconstruction and Commerce, as Government delegate to the liberated territory of Czechoslovakia with General Rudolf Viest, Minister of State, as his deputy. Political advisers chosen from the Czechoslovak State Council in London will accompany the Government delegate. (July 1)

JULY

- 1—The Union of Polish Patriots in the Soviet Union through its central board of administration declares its conviction that the National Council of Poland provides the basis for a provisional national Government capable of rallying Poles within and beyond the frontiers for the struggle against Germany. (2)

- 2—United Nations Monetary Conference makes plans at Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, for an \$8,800,000,000 international stabilization fund to which the Soviet Union would subscribe \$1,200,000,000.—N.Y.H.T. (16)

- 5—Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden reminds a Polish audience that the present Polish Government is committed to continuation of the policy of the late General W. Sikorski, who concluded a treaty with the Soviet Union in 1941. (6)

- 6—Soviet insistence that Russia could not afford to part with as much gold as present draft plans of the proposed international stabilization fund would provide sets in motion discussions by monetary conference delegates at Bretton Woods of sev-

eral possible solutions to this problem. (7)

- 12—The United States has asked Russia to expedite her reply as to whether she is willing to abandon or modify her position that war-devastated countries should be allowed to pay less gold than others into the proposed International Monetary Fund to stabilize currencies, it is disclosed at the Bretton Woods Conference. (12)
- 14—Soviet Russia tentatively agrees to utilize a foreign ruble for the first time in its history to facilitate foreign trade, a spokesman for the monetary conference states. (15)

- 17—Long under consideration among the four big powers, exploratory conversations on an international organization for maintaining the peace have been agreed upon and will be held in Washington shortly, Secretary of State Cordell Hull announces. The discussions will be in two parallel sets, as at Teheran and Cairo, since the Soviet Union is not at war with Japan. (18)

- 19—The Soviet Government declares that it does not pursue aims of acquiring any part of Polish territory or of a change of social structure in Poland, and that the military operations of the Red Army on the territory of Poland are dictated solely by military necessity and by the striving to render the friendly Polish people aid in its liberation from German occupation. (26)*

- 22—An announcement that Moscow has agreed to increase the Russian subscription to the postwar Bank for International Reconstruction and Development by one-third was made late tonight by Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau, chairman of the United States dele-

- gation and president of the United Nations Monetary and Financial Conference, concluding its sessions at Bretton Woods, N. H. (23)
- 22—Unanimous consent is given by the Czechoslovak State Council to a decree that will restore the legal code of the Czechoslovak Republic as soon as the liberating Russian Armies have crossed the border.(23)
- 23—The Moscow radio announces the creation of a Polish Committee of National Liberation. (24)
- 24—Secretary of State Cordell Hull declines to comment on the creation of the new Polish Committee of National Liberation, but "it is known that this committee was established against the will of the United States and will not be recognized," according to *New York Times* correspondent James B. Reston. (25)
- 25—The Soviet Commissariat for Foreign Affairs announces what amounts to de facto recognition of the Polish Committee of National Liberation as the authority to administer Polish territory behind the advancing Red Army. The Russian statement said the "Soviet Government does not intend to establish on Polish territory organs of its own administration, considering this the task of the Polish people. . . . The Soviet Government declares that it does not pursue aims of acquiring any part of Polish territory or of a change of social structure in Poland, and that military operations of the Red Army on the territory of Poland are dictated solely by military necessity."—*N.Y.H.T.* (26)
- 26—Foreign Commissar Molotov and Edward Osubka-Morawski, chairman and Foreign Minister of the Polish Committee of National Liberation, sign an agreement in Moscow which, basically, provides that responsibility for the civil administration of liberated territory in the zone of immediate military operations is vested in the Soviet commander in chief, but after the front advances is handed over to the Polish committee. The Soviet troops are to be subject to Soviet military law, and the members of the Polish Army, including those serving with the Red Army, are to be subject to Polish laws and regulations. (7)
- 27—The Moscow radio announces the signing of an agreement with the Polish Committee of National Liberation on relations between the Polish administration and the Soviet command.—*N.Y.H.T.* (27)
- 29—It has just become known that Premier Stalin cabled Prime Minister Churchill a notification of his willingness to receive Polish Premier Mikolajczyk, and discuss Russian-Polish problems. The message to Mr. Churchill preceded the formal agreement between Russia and the Polish Committee of National Liberation signed in Premier Stalin's presence. (30)
- 31—Conversations among United States, British and Russian naval missions to plan for the demobilization and demilitarization of the German Navy will begin shortly, Vice Admiral William A. Glassford, Jr., discloses in London. (Aug. 1)

AUGUST

- 1—The four-power Conference on Security Organization for Peace in the Post-war World will open in Washington on August 14th with sessions among representatives of the United States, the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union, announces Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., Acting Secretary of State. (2)

2—Prime Minister Churchill, addressing the House of Commons, said, in part, referring to the landing of the Allies on the coast of France, "At Teheran, we promised Marshal Stalin that we should put this plan, or something like it, into operation at the end of May or the beginning of June, and he promised, on his part, that the whole of the Russian armies would be thrown, as indeed they have been, into a general battle in the east." Mr. Churchill also said, "In the air and on the ocean and seas we can maintain ourselves, but there was no force in the world which could have been called into being except after several more years that would have been able to maul and break the German Army and subject it to such terrible slaughter and manhandling as has fallen upon the Germans but the Russian Soviet Armies." Further, Mr. Churchill said, "I firmly believe our twenty-years treaty with Russia will prove to be one of the most lasting and durable factors preserving the peace, order and progress of Europe."

Referring to Poland, Mr. Churchill said, "The Russian armies now stand before the gates of Warsaw. They bring liberation for Poland in their hands. They offer freedom, sovereignty and independence to the Poles." In connection with Rumania, Mr. Churchill said, "Now it does seem to me that Rumania must primarily make terms with Russia, whom they have so outrageously assaulted and at whose mercy they will soon lie. Russia has offered generous terms to Rumania. . . ." (3)* (Partial text)

2—The Moscow radio reports that the

USSR Council of People's Commissars and the Polish Committee of National Liberation have exchanged representatives. (2)

5—Commenting on the visit to Moscow of Premier Stanislaw Mikolajczyk of the Polish Government in Exile, Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., Acting Secretary of State, expresses the hope that the conversations would result in a mutually satisfactory solution of outstanding questions between Poland and the Soviet Union. (6)

5—A Moscow broadcast reports that diplomatic relations have been established between the Soviet Union and the Lebanese Republic, former French mandate which received its independence late in 1943. (6)

8—Rene Blum, Minister from the Luxembourg Government-in-Exile, arrives in Moscow. (9)

10—In Moscow Premier Mikolajczyk announces that he is returning to London to lay before his Cabinet definite proposals for a new Polish Government, and tells reporters he was satisfied during his stay in the Soviet Union that "the Russian Government wants full unity among all the Polish people except such Poles as are fascist-minded." (10)

10—Russian War Relief announces that the Soviet Government has given the agency permission to ship American supplies for Poland, by way of the USSR, to be distributed by the Polish Committee of National Liberation. Transportation would be provided free by Soviet ships. (11)

11—Andrei A. Gromyko, Soviet Ambassador to Washington, is appointed chairman of the Soviet Union's delegation to the Tri-

partite Security Conference in Washington. Among his assistants will be Rear Admiral Rodionov and Maj. Gen. N. V. Avin; Foreign Office officials A. A. Sobolev and S. K. Tzarapkin, and Profs. S. A. Golunsky, S. B. Krylov and G. G. Goblin. The people of Russia believe the biggest Allies must shoulder the biggest responsibility for maintaining peace, and there is little backing in the Soviet Union for an international police force, reports *The New York Times*. (12)

11—President Mikhail Kalinin signs a decree providing a general amnesty for all Polish citizens convicted of or charged with committing minor crimes on territory of the Soviet Union. Excepted from the amnesty are those convicted of or charged with espionage or murder. The decree is issued as the Red Army and Polish troops begin the liberation of Poland. (12)

13—Moscow radio announces that full responsibility for the revolt in Warsaw "lies with Polish circles in London, who have not thought to coordinate it with the Soviet high command." (13)

14—Secretary of State Hull announces that a preliminary understanding has been reached with Russia on post-war civil aviation, with both sides favoring the establishment of an international authority for civil aviation with consultative and technical functions. (15)

17—*Polish Press*, a Polish news summary in English provided for foreign correspondents in the Soviet Union, records that United States Ambassador W. Averell Harriman conferred with a delegation representing the Polish National Council and gave them assurances that

there will be no serious trouble between the Soviet Union and the United States on Polish problems, although Mr. Harriman's government maintains diplomatic relations only with the London Government in Exile headed by Premier Stanislaw Mikolajczyk. (18)

19—*Pravda* says that the Warsaw insurrection was doomed to failure from the beginning and that the men who died fighting German mechanized troops in the Polish capital were "foully deceived by a group of adventurous and political speculators of the London emigre government." (20)

21—The "Washington Conversations on International Organization" opens at the Dumbarton Oaks mansion in Washington, with speeches by Secretary Hull, Andrei A. Gromyko, the Russian Ambassador, and Sir Alexander Cadogan, British Permanent Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs. All three officials state that the conversations were designed to carry out Article Four of the Moscow Declaration, which obligated the United States, Soviet Russia, Britain and China to create "at the earliest practicable date a general international organization, based on the principle of the sovereign equality of all peace-loving nations and open to membership of all such states, large and small, for the maintenance of international peace and security." (22)*

24—The Commissariat of Foreign Affairs notifies the Australian Legation in Moscow that it can no longer recognize Australia as the protecting power for Polish Nationals' property in the USSR because of establishment of relations

by the USSR with the Polish Committee of National Liberation. (25)

- 29—Sir Alexander Cadogan, Under-Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., and Ambassador Gromyko announce in a press conference at Dumbarton Oaks that they have reached "general agreement" on the structure and aims of an international league to maintain peace and security. Their joint communique states the league should provide for:

- "1. An assembly composed of representatives of all peace-loving nations based on the principle of sovereign equality.
2. A council composed of a smaller number of members in which the principal States will be joined by a number of other states to be elected periodically.
3. Effective means for the peaceful settlement of disputes, including an international court of justice for the adjudication of justiciable questions, and also the application of such other means as may be necessary for maintenance of peace and security."

The delegation chairmen, and also President Roosevelt at his White House press conference, refuse to discuss details of the three plans before the conference. Conference Chairman Stettinius, in a separate press statement, emphasizes that the Dumbarton Oaks discussions are preliminary in nature. (30)

ENEMY

JANUARY

- 8—The official Finnish radio reiterates its declaration that "Finland wants peace and is willing to make peace,"

but still insists that Russia's terms be made known first, states the Stockholm newspaper *Afton Tidningen*.—N.Y.H.T. (9)

- 23—Count Michael Karolyi, former President and Prime Minister of Hungary, sends a message to Hungarian prisoners of war in Russia, urging them to put themselves at the disposal of the Red Army as part of the Soviet plan to build up a strong group of Partisan armies to fight in the mountains of south-eastern Europe. Count Karolyi calls for the organization of a partisan army in the mountainous regions of Hungary and asks Rumanians and others of southeastern Europe to fight in cooperation with Marshal Tito's Yugoslav Army of Liberation. (24)

FEBRUARY

- 6—TASS states, as quoted by the Moscow radio: "In the course of the past week, the foreign press continued to assert that the Soviet Government was conducting negotiations for a separate peace with Finland. TASS is authorized to declare that these reports lack any foundation whatever." (7)

- 8—Secretary of State Cordell Hull confirms that the United States has given a renewed warning to Finland that if she continues in the war she must be prepared to take the consequences. (9)

- 27—Taylor Henry, Associated Press bureau chief in Vichy at the time of the German occupation, writing from Lisbon where he awaits repatriation, says that 40 percent of all labor in Germany today is done by virtual slave workers drawn from captured and occupied areas. Latest available estimates place the number of foreign workers in Ger-

many at 12,000,000 out of a total of 29,000,000. The big three among these workers are Russians, Poles and French, with the Russians totaling 2,500,000. A confidential source said that only 1,500,000 of the first 4,000,000 Russians captured survived the rigors of German prison camps. There is no Red Cross convention between Germany and Russia, so no neutral power looks after the interests of Russian prisoners. (28)

28—The Swedish Government, in the hope of inducing Finland to get out of the war, promises to do everything in its power to help feed the Finns if they break with the Axis and thus lose German food supplies. (29)

28—The Soviet Information Bureau, in a broadcast from Moscow, states that an unofficial meeting between Dr. Paasikivi of Finland and Mme. Kollontai, Soviet Ambassador to Sweden, took place February 16 in Stockholm at the request of Dr. Paasikivi, who declared he was authorized by the Finnish Government to find out the Soviet Government's terms for an armistice and for Finland's withdrawal from the war.

Mme. Kollontai subsequently conveyed to Dr. Paasikivi the reply of the Soviet Government's armistice terms covering: 1) The rupture of relations with Germany and the internment of German troops and ships in Finland, with help from Soviet troops and air force to accomplish this if Finland considered it beyond her powers; 2) Re-establishment of the Soviet-Finnish agreement of 1940 and withdrawal of Finnish troops to the 1940 boundaries; 3) Immediate return of Soviet and Allied civilians now

held in concentration camps or being used for labor; 4) Questions concerning Finnish Army demobilization to be left for negotiations in Moscow; 5) Settlement on Reparations to be left for negotiations in Moscow; 6) Decision concerning the Petsamo region to be settled by negotiations in Moscow. The Soviet Government declared it would receive Finland's representative for negotiations for conclusions of a concrete agreement if the Finnish Government agreed to accept the above conditions immediately. (Mar. 1)

MARCH

21—Finland announces rejection of the Russian armistice terms. An official Soviet statement broadcast from Moscow declares that the refusal places full responsibility for the consequences on the Finnish government. The declarations indicate a complete and final breakdown in peace negotiations. (22)

29—An *Izvestia* editorial warns the peoples of Finland, Rumania and Bulgaria that the only way they can save their countries from becoming battle-grounds is to break immediately with Adolf Hitler, using their own armed forces to resist any attempt by him to occupy their territories as he did Hungary. (30)

APRIL

2—Foreign Commissar V. M. Molotov, in a statement to foreign correspondents in Moscow, announces the invasion of Rumania. The Russians have crossed the Prut River border, the state frontier between the USSR and Rumania. "Thus," he said, "a beginning has been made for the full re-establishment of the Soviet state frontiers as fixed in 1940 in accordance with

an agreement between Soviet Russia and Rumania. Mr. Molotov also said, "At the same time the Soviet Government declares that it does not pursue the purpose of acquiring any part of Rumanian territory or of changing the social system existing in Rumania, and that the entry of Soviet troops into Rumania is dictated exclusively by military necessity and by the continued resistance of enemy troops. (3)*"

- 26—The Soviet Union offers peace terms to Rumania which are later rejected by the Antonescu Government. (The terms are outlined by the Moscow radio on August 26, 1944.—N.Y.H.T. August 27.)

MAY

- 7—More than 102,000 civilians and prisoners of war were murdered by the Germans in the Rovno region of pre-war Poland, a Soviet special commission for investigation of German atrocities charges today as it names the alleged perpetrators of the crimes.—N.Y.H.T. (7)
- 7—Estimating that the Germans have killed more than 2,000,000 civilians in the Soviet Union, *War and the Working Class* criticizes the International Committee of the Red Cross for its appeal to belligerent powers urging that prisoners of war not be tried. (8)
- 12—Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Finland receive so stern a warning to get out of the war and thus cease aiding Germany that it has the force of an ultimatum from the United States, Great Britain and the Soviet Union. (12)

JUNE

- 27—The Finnish Government announces that it has decided to

stay in the war and has asked for German help, military as well as economic, which has been promised. (28)

- 30—The United States severs diplomatic relations with Finland on the grounds that the Helsinki Government has entered into an irrevocable military partnership with Germany to fight the allies of the United States on the side of the enemies of the United States, and that the Finnish operations have a direct bearing on the success of the Allied effort. (July 1)*

JULY

- 2—Premier Edwin J. Linkomies, in a broadcast to the Finnish people, commits his Government to continue the war with Russia until released by Germany, but claims that Finland was innocent in the circumstances whereby the United States "has unfortunately broken off" diplomatic relations. (3)
- 4—An American reporter with the Red Army in Rumania states that the Russians in the initial venture of this war beyond their borders have adopted a strict attitude of non-intervention in local affairs. (5)
- 17—A group of 57,000 German prisoners of war, headed east from the White Russian front, marches through the streets of Moscow. (18)
- 19—A captured German lieutenant general, Edmund Hoffmeister, former commander of the Forty-first German Tank Corps, issues a long statement published by the Moscow press. He describes how his forces, as well as the majority of the Thirty-fifth Army Corps, were annihilated near Bobruisk—and attributes the debacle not only to the

superiority of the Russian forces but also to the "gross mistakes in German strategy," including Hitler's personal ban on strategic retreats. (20)

- 25—Soviet newspapers publish a 13-page handwritten declaration by 16 captured German generals that Germany has been brought to the verge of chaos by the "adventurist political and strategic leadership of Adolf Hitler." They call on the generals and officers of the Wehrmacht to break decisively with Hitler and other Nazi leaders and refuse to carry out their orders so the war may be brought to a quick end. (26)

AUGUST

- 1—President Risto Ryti of Finland resigns. Field Marshal Baron Carl Gustav Mannerheim is his successor. In a bulletin, the Government states that the situation is too serious to allow for regular election of a new President. Premier Edwin Linkomies is expected to resign; Eero Vuori, a labor leader, is mentioned as his successor. (2)
- 4—Mannerheim takes the oath as President of Finland after Parliament has unanimously passed a bill conferring the office upon him in the face of the overwhelming Russian advance. (5)
- 14—*Pravda* publishes the text of a letter written by Field Marshal Gen. Friedrich von Paulus, former commander of the German Sixth Army (liquidated at Stalingrad) and the first German Field Marshal captured in this war, urging an immediate overthrow of Adolf Hitler and a cessation of hostilities with the Allies to avoid further "senseless blood-letting." (15)*
- 23—From Berne comes a report that in

a brief proclamation to the Rumanian people broadcast from Bucharest, King Michael ordered his armed forces to cease fire against the Allies and to take up the fight immediately by the side of Soviet forces on Rumanian soil against their common enemy, Germany. The King informed his people that he had accepted the terms of the Allies for unconditional surrender. (24)

- 25—In the first official reply from an Allied Government to Rumania's decision to accept Allied peace terms, the Soviet Government states that if Rumanian troops stop fighting the Russians and turn on the Germans "or against the Hungarians for the liberation of Transylvania," then the Red Army "will not disarm them, will keep completely intact for them their entire equipment and help them in this honorable duty." Russia disavows any desire to acquire Rumanian territory. (25)
- 26—Bulgarian Foreign Minister informs Soviet Government that Bulgaria has decided to become a neutral. Moscow radio outlines terms offered Rumania on April 26, and rejected by Antonescu government. —*N.Y.H.T.* (27)

NEUTRALS

JANUARY

- 5—Testimony of a Spanish prisoner of war published in the Soviet press disputes the contention of the Franco Government that all Spanish troops have been withdrawn from the Russian front. (5)
- 23—A stern warning that the war is approaching Bulgaria, and an appeal to the Bulgarian people to join their brother Slavs in the war

against Germany is issued in Moscow by representatives of the Russian SSR, the Ukraine, White Russia, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Poland. The group comprises members of the All-Slav Committee, with headquarters in Moscow. (23)

FEBRUARY

- 14—The Azerbaidzhan Soviet Republic adjoining Iran will appoint a Minister to Turkey, the Exchange Telegraph reports from Istanbul. Azerbaidzhan appears to be the first individual Soviet republic to implement Russia's new changes with the coming appointment of an envoy. (5)

MARCH

- 5—Sergei Orlov, first Russian Minister to Uruguay after a five-year interruption in Russian-Uruguayan diplomatic relations, arrives in Montevideo. (Uruguay and the USSR re-established diplomatic relations last year.) (6)
- 29—Denying any ideological motive or desire on the part of the Swiss to prolong ill-balanced foreign relations, Pilet Marcel Golaz, chief of the Diplomatic Department (Foreign Office) in a 70-minute address before the Swiss National Council persuades the Social Democratic party to withdraw a motion for a debate on the subject of immediate renewal of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. (30)

JUNE

- 3—From Berne comes the report that the new Bulgarian Regency Council met today to discuss the five-point ultimatum Mr. Philoff brought back from Berchtesgaden

Monday. Point 2 calls for the breaking off of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union "without delay." (3)

JULY

- 3—Sergei Alexandrovich Vinogradov, Soviet Ambassador to Turkey, has protested to Turkey that Germans have used Turkish territorial waters and have flown over Turkish land in attacking Soviet Black Sea shipping. In reply, Turkey has advised that shore and anti-aircraft batteries have been reinforced to prevent a repetition. (4)

AUGUST

- 2—Turkey breaks diplomatic and economic relations with Germany at the request of Britain, backed by American diplomacy, but clings to the hope of avoiding actual warfare.
- 8—Turkey releases from prison two Russian citizens, George Pavlov and Leonid Kornilov, Soviet consulate employees at Istanbul who, in 1942, were sentenced to sixteen years and eight months imprisonment charged with a bomb attempt on the life of German Ambassador Franz von Papen. Their release follows the recent passage by the Turkish Assembly of an amnesty bill for political crimes committed on Turkish territory in the past few years by nationals of the United Nations. (9)
- 21—The German radio reports that Bulgarian Premier Ivan Bagrianoff and the Soviet Charge d'Affaires in Sofia conferred yesterday. On the 17th Mr. Bagrianoff urged the Bulgarian Parliament to get the nation out of the war, which he said the "great majority of the Bulgarian people never desired." (21)

FAR EAST

JANUARY

- 16—A TASS transmission, reported by the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service, announces the arrival of Marshal Choibalsan, Prime Minister of the Mongolian People's Republic, in Moscow for a visit. (17)

FEBRUARY

- 10—China is prepared to deal with the autonomous Soviet republics fringing upon her territory, but must first wait for official notification of their powers from Moscow, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs K. C. Wu indicates at a Chungking press conference. (11)

MARCH

- 17—Few persons in Japan now believe that victory is possible, and the optimistic declarations of Government officials have not succeeded in hiding from the populace Japan's failure in recent months, declares *War and the Working Class*. (18)
- 25—An ancient camel track has been remodeled into a broad motor highway over which 7,000 tons of supplies roll every month from India to the USSR, according to the Agency-General for India. The route has brought India's resources to within a week's road journey from Russia's southern border. (26)
- 30—By an agreement signed in Moscow, the USSR wins immediate return of rights to oil and coal concessions in northern Sakhalin granted to Japan in 1925 for a forty-five year term. The Russians have agreed to supply Japan with 50,000 tons of oil a year for five years, beginning after the war, and to give Japan free export of oil and coal now in storage on the island. Russia will pay Japan 5,000,000

rubles (technically about \$950,000) and Japan is to hand over to Russia all property, including equipment, materials and food, belonging to the Japanese concessionaires. (The northern half of Sakhalin Island is Soviet territory, the southern half Japanese.)

The new Soviet-Japanese agreement prolonging the fisheries convention of 1928 for five years provides a return to Russia of 24 fishing allotments; the right of Soviet organizations to purchase ten percent of the fishing allotments which are auctioned; increase of rental and other payments in gold to the amount of six percent over the rent to which the Japanese agreed last year; and a guarantee from the Japanese government that fishing sections leased to Japanese subjects off the eastern coast of Kamchatka and the Olyutorsk district are not to be exploited by them until the end of the war in the Pacific. (N.Y.H.T. 31)

APRIL

- 2—The Moscow radio announces in a domestic broadcast that Chinese troops from Sinkiang "violated territory" of the Mongolian People's Republic "at the end of 1943" and quotes "leading Mongolian authorities" as saying that the Soviet Government would have to aid Mongolia under the Moscow-Mongolia treaty if "such violations recur." (2)

MAY

- 25—The Soviet Government has agreed, at the request of the British and American Governments, to approach the Japanese Government with reference to the treatment of both British and American prisoners of war in the Far East and about

the possibility of shipping supplies to them. (26)

JUNE

- 6—A prospect appeared today that American and Allied war prisoners in the Far East would receive relief supplies and mail when the State Department announced that Russia would cooperate. A port adjacent to Vladivostok will be made available where relief supplies already on Soviet territory may be picked up by a Japanese ship. (7)

JULY

- 18—I. Alexandrov, writing in *War and the Working Class*, attacks "reactionary policies" of the Chinese Government, and warns the latter to give up "its deathly policy of dividing and suppressing the patriotic and democratic forces of China" and thus preventing full collaboration of the entire armed forces of the country for defeat of the Japanese invaders. (19)
- 24—In an English-language dispatch, as transmitted to the Pacific Zone and recorded by the FCC, Domei said that Premier Koiso told newspaper men that Japan "will maintain friendly relations with the

Soviet Union and exert her best efforts in order to avoid unnecessary provocations," and added that "efforts will also be made toward befriending neutral countries in order that they may offer positive cooperation to Japan." (24)

VATICAN

MAY

- 6—For Rev. Orlemanski's statements on his interview with Stalin concerning Poland and the Catholic Church, see under "United States," this date and also May 12.

JULY

- 28—Pope Pius addresses five hundred Polish soldiers in the Vatican and counsels them not to take vengeance against the Germans and Russians who occupied prewar eastern Poland in 1939 but to collaborate with the Russians. (29)

AUGUST

- 12—Moscow broadcasts an official denial of reports that Russia has suggested to the Vatican a coordination between Moscow and the Vatican in post-war handling of social and religious problems. (13)

Town-Exhibit Proposed for USSR

Prof. B. G. Skramtaiev, director of the Central Institute for Building Research in Moscow, reviewed Soviet building problems and plans at a meeting of the American Russian Institute held October 19 at the Commodore Hotel, New York. Excerpts from this address, prepared jointly by the speaker and by Prof. Y. M. Ivanov, who is also in the United States studying American building methods, are presented below:

OUR rehabilitation work at present is frequently of a temporary character. Its purpose is to organize transport and communications, to start up plants working for the needs of the front, to give shelter to the remaining and returning people, to provide them with services of prime necessity. In this work we have attained certain success. . . .

But it is only the beginning. We are facing an even more grandiose task—the permanent rehabilitation and reconstruction of liberated areas and further industrialization of our whole country.

It seems to us that this problem might interest the American people, particularly from the point of view of our postwar business relations.

Building problems concern Professor Ivanov and myself as specialists. We have seen much that is interesting and useful for us in your country. For example, we have seen how your plants are constructing 20 prefabricated houses a day and how they are assembled at the place in two hours. We have seen how hundreds of thousands of square feet of excellent building materials are produced a day. We have also studied your methods of speed construction of good concrete roads. We have seen your mass production of suitable inside equipment for buildings and many other valuable things of American technology. Similar materials and equipment are very necessary for the Soviet Union, and in great quantities.

It is necessary to bear in mind that from the point of view of costs and our transport possibilities the shipment of building materials in large quantities from the U. S. A. to the U.S.S.R. would hardly be possible because of their great weight and the long distances.

But it is quite possible that it will be necessary to have some quantity of the American materials in the U.S.S.R.

We believe that it will be interesting to build somewhere near Moscow a small town of American type made of your materials, with all your inside equipment. There many American companies would be able to show to the Soviet people their products. We are not sure that our people would like everything, but it is worth exploring. The idea of such a town-exhibition is our own personal idea and it has not yet been discussed anywhere.

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Story of war in a Ukrainian village by a well-known Soviet writer.

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American Russian Cultural Relations

Following are excerpts from an address by Dr. Ralph E. Turner, Assistant Chief, Division of Cultural Cooperation, U. S. State Department, at the American Russian Institute Dinner held October 19 at the Hotel Commodore, New York:

Russia and America—two countries that span continents—today sharing the task of striking down the enemies of liberty; tomorrow collaborating in the organization of world peace and a friendly intercourse among nations.

The normal relations of these people are cultural. Each has achieved results in ways that can serve the other. They are in the forefront of medical and other scientific advances. The agriculture of one has much to teach that of the other. Their industrial technologies support one another. Their literatures embody both realism and humane feeling. Their arts speak not confused tongues.

A broad view of the present confused conditions among the world peoples reveals that in spite of conflict and disorganization there is an underlying movement from which in fact issue the essential characteristics of these times. This movement can best be understood as an effort in a multitude of forms by which a world peoples are attempting to gain access to the general body of new knowledge and to apply it in services that will ameliorate and improve their lives. In this movement, both the American and Russian people share an active leadership. . . . In this shared leadership is the guarantee that mutual understanding and mutual services between the American and Russian peoples can be developed in a broad program of cultural exchanges.

The best way to facilitate the development of this broad program is probably to organize cultural exchanges between the two peoples upon an agreed basis. Indeed, the time is now opportune for the negotiation of a bilateral arrangement under which cultural exchanges of all kinds may be carried on between the American and Russian peoples.

SOME RECENT ARTICLES ON THE SOVIET UNION

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RUSSIAN ENGINEER THANKS AMERICA

MOSCOW (BY CABLE) — FOR TWENTY THREE MONTHS I WAS A MEMBER OF A GUERRILLA DETACHMENT WHICH OPERATED IN BRYANSK FORESTS. OUR UNIT HAD BEEN CUT OFF FROM OUR MAIN FORCES SO WE REGULAR SOLDIERS BECAME PARTISANS.

IN TWENTY THREE MONTHS OF PARTISAN LIFE WE ENDURED MANY HARDSHIPS AND HAD WONDERFUL EXPERIENCES. SOMETIMES WE STARVED FOR WEEKS AND SOMETIMES FEASTED ON FOOD WE SEIZED FROM THE ENEMY. AT TIMES WE ATE ROOTS AND BARK OR WENT FOR DAYS WITHOUT EVEN SWAMP WATER.

MANY TIMES OUR SOVIET FLIERS CAME TO OUR RESCUE. FLYING LOW OVER OUR CAMP THEY WOULD DROP FOOD, NEWSPAPERS AND MEDICINES FOR US.

AMONG THESE GIFTS FROM THE SKY WERE ALSO SOME AMERICAN PRODUCTS; BUTTER, CANNED MEAT, EGG POWDER, CONDENSED MILK. TO THIS DAY I REMEMBER WHAT REJOICING THIS HELP CAUSED AMONG US. WE LIKED AMERICAN PRODUCTS, PARTICULARLY CONDENSED MILK.

GRADUALLY I LEARNED THE NAMES OF MANY AMERICAN FIRMS SUCH AS SWIFT, ARMOUR, BORDEN COMPANY, AND OTHERS.

AMERICAN CANS MADE OF RUSTLESS METAL WERE CONVERTED INTO POTS AND CUPS. WE CALLED THEM IN JEST OUR AMERICAN SILVER.

LABELS AND INSCRIPTIONS ON THE CANS WERE OUR FIRST PRIMER. I USED THEM TO TEACH PARTISANS THE RUDIMENTS OF ENGLISH.

I AM AN ENGINEER IN THE LEATHER INDUSTRY BY PROFESSION AND STUDIED SOME ENGLISH IN COLLEGE. MY RATHER SCANTY KNOWLEDGE OF THE LANGUAGE NOW CAME IN HANDY. I BECAME "INSTRUCTOR" AND TRANSLATOR.

MY BIGGEST "CUSTOMER" WAS OUR COOK WHO INSISTED ON AN EXACT TRANSLATION OF ALL DIRECTIONS ON ALL CANS. HE WAS AN ADMIRER OF EGG POWDER WHICH HE USED IN ALL POSSIBLE DISHES, AND EACH TIME INSISTED ON A TRANSLATION OF THE EXTENSIVE DIRECTIONS ON THE CAN.

IT IS WITH A FEELING OF GRATITUDE THAT I RECALL THIS AMERICAN HELP TO THE PARTISANS IN THE BRYANSK FORESTS. MANY TIMES IT CAME TO US AS A GREAT RELIEF IN DIRE CIRCUMSTANCES, AND LENT US FRESH STRENGTH TO FIGHT THE ENEMY.

PETER NOVIKOV

This cable was recently received by Russian War Relief, Inc., which by Sept. 30, 1944, had shipped 16,608 tons of relief supplies, valued at \$30,104,193, to the USSR. Included in this voluntary war aid, shipment of which began early in 1942, were 9,304 tons of clothing, worth \$19,815,252; 2,951 tons of medical supplies worth \$7,447,195; 2,633 tons of seed and food, worth \$1,377,317; 1,579 tons of household emergency kits, worth \$1,353,841; and 141 tons of miscellaneous supplies, worth \$110,588.

NEWS IN BRIEF

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

(Continued from page 68)

country needs. He proposes the widespread construction of power windmills of 15 to 25 kw. capacity, suitable for farms and villages.

The entire windmill—tower, vane, tail—could be made of wood and other local materials, he points out. Only the batteries would have to be factory-produced.

The battery proposed by Prof. Vetchinkin is a special type of inert regulating accumulator which he has developed and utilized for 25 years at a wind-power station in Kursk. Four more such wind-electric power stations were recently built and are now operating on a farm near Novosibirsk. Prof. Vetchinkin is designing similar stations suitable for erection in the war-ravaged areas.³

Soviet experts are also exploring means of reducing consumption of electricity. L. Tumerman of the Physics Institute, Academy of Sciences, proposes that incandescent bulbs be replaced generally by fluorescent lamps. Noting that these lamps originated in the United States, and that a few experimental Soviet-made types were tried out before the war, Tumerman points out that a 40-watt fluorescent lamp gives four times more illumination than the usual tungsten-filament bulb, and lasts three to four times as long.

He estimates that replacement of 40 million incandescent bulbs by fluorescent lamps would have as much power as the pre-war annual production of the Dnieper hydro-electric station. Tumerman argues, therefore, that to organize production of 40 million fluorescent lamps would be equivalent to building a Dnieper Dam, and would cost considerably less.⁴

FILM WORKERS FORM SECTION

Organization of a Cinema Section has been announced by VOKS (Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries). Sixty-five of the USSR's leading directors, actors and scenario writers are among the members.

³ *Izvestia*, January 14, 1944.

⁴ *Izvestia*, December 2, 1943.

The Section was organized, according to a VOKS statement, "to acquaint Soviet film workers with outstanding productions of foreign directors and actors, and with the latest methods used by foreign film organizations. . . . The Cinema Section will also sponsor an exchange of ideas and experience between Soviet and foreign film workers. For that purpose it will inform foreign countries of the activities of leading Soviet directors, scenario writers, actors, cameramen and artists, and will provide summaries of outstanding Soviet films."

The U. S. War Department film, "Battle for Russia," was one of the first foreign films to be previewed and discussed by the group. As one of several speakers who discussed the film, Boris Agapov, a scenario writer, said in part: "In 'The Battle for Russia' we have come across our own material, built up by a method which can be very instructive to us. This has been a creative test not only for the authors of the film but for our newsreels, too. We often criticize our newsreels severely, but it appears that the work of our newsreel producers has made it possible to create a synthesized film which covers a long period of time and a great number of problems and which is extremely rich in screen material. In this sense we have, as it were, passed the test."

PAVLOV ASSOCIATES, STUDENTS ACTIVE

THE EFFECT of the war upon the activities of the laboratories and clinics continuing the work of the great Russian physiologist Ivan P. Pavlov is reviewed in *Izvestia* by Prof. K. Kekcheev in the course of a report on the Tenth Pavlov Conference held earlier in the year. (Periodic conferences, at which the "Pavlovites" report on their activities, have already become traditional.)

"Research work in the Pavlov subjects has barely been interrupted during the last three years, notwithstanding war, siege, evacuation and other difficulties," wrote Prof. Kekcheev. "Even in Koltushi, within the ring of the Leningrad blockade, scientific work—although in a somewhat curtailed form—continued during the siege. Maria Kapitonovna Petrova, who had worked with Ivan Petrovich (Pavlov) for a quarter of a century, remained in the besieged city. She suffered cold and hunger but brought to a close a research project on which she had been working for 15 years."

While the war scarcely interrupted activities of scientists of the Pavlov school, it did much to determine the nature of their investigations, according to the writer.

Two representatives of the school have been developing a therapy employing prolonged sleep, along the lines of Pavlov's treatment of schizophrenia. One of these is Prof. A. G. Ivanov-Smolensky, who has been working in a special evacuation hospital for servicemen recovering from brain concussions or contusions. After the termination of sleep, patients with head contusions learned to pronounce words and phrases more rapidly than by the usual methods, according to Prof. Kekcheev.

The second Pavlov student employing the same therapy is Ezras Asratian, who was evacuated to Tashkent and is there reported to be developing a method of treating a shock condition.

Academician L. A. Orbeli, Pavlov's oldest pupil, and some of his associates are studying disturbances in brain action which follow battle trauma. The Orbeli school is also carrying forward Pavlov's work on conditioned reflexes.

NEW SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTES

THE ARMENIAN Academy of Science in Yerevan marks its first anniversary on November 29, 1944. An independent institution, it developed out of the Armenian affiliate of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

The Armenian academy is one of nine scientific institutions which have been opened in the Soviet Union during the war, according to Soviet reports.

Branches of the USSR Academy of Sciences were recently established in the Uzbek Republic and in Frunze, capital of the Khirghiz Republic. The latter affiliate is composed of sections on chemistry, biology, history, language and literature.

Under the Kazakh Branch of the All-Union Academy, an Institute of Zoological Sciences was set up last year. Its program stresses improvement of Kazakh livestock and fishing. A Tropical Institute has also been established.

The Azerbaidzhan Branch of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR marked its tenth anniversary recently. Reports stress that it has carried on important war work in the investigation of Azerbaidzhan's mineral resources.

The Ukrainian Academy of Sciences recently returned to Kiev.

TADZHIKS RAISING MORE GRAIN

THE TADZHIK Republic, in Central Asia, which before the war had to "import" 150,000 tons of grain annually from other parts of the USSR, is now reported to be raising all the grain it needs, with a little to spare for State deliveries. The Tadzhik area cultivated to grain has been expanded by 425,000 acres since June, 1941. During the same period, Tadzhik livestock farms have increased their cattle herds by 500,000 head, large numbers of which have been shipped west to the liberated areas.

FROM FLUSHING TO MOSCOW

THE SOVIET PAVILION at the 1939 New York World's Fair, which was dismantled and returned to the USSR before the war, will become a permanent feature of the Moscow landscape after certain improvements are made. These include marble facings for the facade, and reproduction of the original bas-reliefs and sculptures in marble and granite. Reassembled on a bank of the Moscow River near the Central Park of Culture and Rest, the pavilion will serve as a center for the display of new building techniques.

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